

Dear House Behavioral Health & Health Care Committee

My name is Kevin Sinclair and I am a patient of a licensed Naturopathic Doctor (ND). I am asking you to support HB 2555 because I have had a positive experience with my ND and strongly believe they should be compensated at the same level as other providers.

My ND is the only doctor who has really helped me, with several health conditions. When you have something wrong that involves inflammation, or the effects of mold allergy, and other things that are not immediately clear what is wrong - then the ND is ideal.

When my wife got Fibromyalgia, her regular doctors directly told her they had nothing for her - and that included MD specialists. But our ND helped her so much! She is now pain-free.

That has such huge value.

I especially value the time my ND spends educating me on my health and how best to manage my concerns through nutrition, staying active, overcoming stress and improving my sleep. This is a valuable type of preventive medicine.

Currently, Naturopathic Doctors are not being fairly compensated for the care they give and for the important role they play in our state's healthcare workforce. Naturopathic doctors are paid about half of what all other provider types (MDs, DOs, NPs and PAs) are paid for the exact same codes and services. **This imbalance puts my doctor on unstable financial ground and puts my access to the provider of my house in jeopardy. Naturopathic doctors are being forced to drop insurance plans just to remain financially viable.**

It is essential that I be able to utilize my health insurance to see my doctor. I should not be forced to purchase health insurance AND pay out of pocket for the quality of health care that I have chosen. I need my ND to stay in network with my insurance and stay in business!

Please vote yes on HB2555 and ensure patient access to licensed Naturopathic Doctors.

Sincerely,

Name: Kevin Sinclair

Address: 3940 NW 169th Ave.

City: Beaverton, OR 97006