

Dear House Behavioral Health & Health Care Committee,

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

I especially value the time my ND spends educating me and my family on our health and how best to manage our concerns through nutrition, staying active, overcoming stress and improving sleep. This is an immeasurably 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 my beloved provider 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 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,

Marissa Emery  
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Aloha, Oregon