

Name: Tyler Marshall

Date: 2-6-2019

Subject: Oregon Association of Naturopathic Physicians Pay Parity Bill

Dear Senate and Health Care Committees,

My name is Tyler Marshall and I am a patient of a Naturopathic Physician. I would like to share my experience working with an ND to show the importance of this profession in the state of Oregon.

I have Crohn's Disease and it's only through working with my naturopath, Dr. Heidi Peterson, that I've had my health largely restored. Previously, I'd worked with a gastroenterologist and visited multiple MDs, without seeing much improvement in my health. After beginning to see Dr. Peterson, I went from feeling about 70% full health to about 95% on a regular basis. It's amazing and I feel like I finally have my health back after six years of struggling.

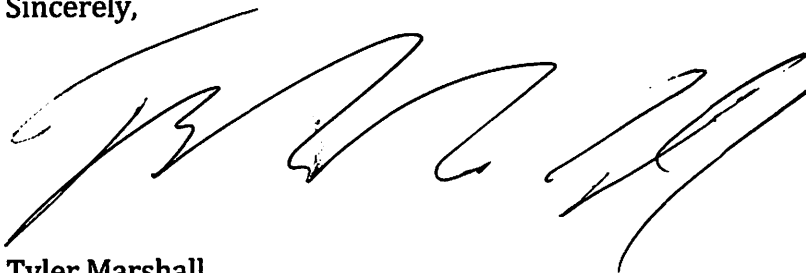
Beyond seeing Dr. Peterson, I've worked with several other incredible naturopaths. NDs take the time to listen. Instead of just trying to help me survive, they rely on a wide variety of approaches—Western and Eastern medicine, natural medicine—to heal patients. The three NDs I've worked closely with have all relied heavily on the latest medical science; no crystals, chanting, or other "woo woo" approaches were involved. They realize it takes an ongoing, supportive relationship with patients for real change to happen.

I have my life back because of naturopathic care. Again, despite seeing many MDs and gastroenterologist and having little success, it's only NDs that have been able to improve my health significantly.

I strongly believe my naturopath deserves equal pay to MD providers (if not more).

I am asking that you vote yes on the Naturopathic Physician Pay Parity bill.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tyler Marshall', written in a cursive style.

Tyler Marshall