

Name: Rachel Yeager

Date: 2-9-19

Subject: Oregon Association of Naturopathic Physicians Pay Parity Bill

Dear Senate and Health Care Committees,

My name is Rachel Yeager and I am a naturopathic medical student. I would like to share my experience as a student to show the importance of this profession in the delivery of quality healthcare in the state of Oregon, and the barriers that we face in trying to deliver this care.

I decided to attend naturopathic medical school because pharmaceuticals weren't enough for the health of myself and my family. I believe optimal health is maintained through a combination of lifestyle, botanicals/alternative medicine, and pharmaceuticals. At NUNM, my education is a combination of all of those.

I am in my second of four years, and like most my peers, I plan to pursue a residency/mentorship after graduating. I plan to practice primary care in Oregon, and I want to be able to serve patients with OHP, who can't pay out of pocket.

I think the preventative medicine that I am going to practice is important for patients in all income brackets, if not especially for those who cannot later afford hospital bills from suffering an adverse event.

Pay parity would allow me to serve patients in all income brackets. I want the best for Oregon and I believe this is in the best interest of the state.

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

Sincerely,

Rachel Yeager