

March 24, 2021

Dear Senate Health Care Committee,

My name is Susan Payseno from Wilsonville, Oregon. I am represented by Senator Kim Thatcher, Senate District 13. I am a patient of a Naturopathic Doctor (ND). I would like to share my experience working with an ND as a medical provider and ask you to support the passage of SB772.

I have worked with many types of medical providers, and very few have taken the time and shown the care and interest in my health and welfare as my naturopathic physician has taken. The level of education and expertise with the competent care that I have received has not only helped me move forward with understanding and managing my health conditions, but has renewed my faith in the healthcare system.

Unfortunately, right now in Oregon, Naturopathic Doctors are not being fairly compensated for their valuable contributions to healthcare in the state of Oregon. This makes it more difficult for citizens, like me, to access and receive this unique essential level of care. It also limits my choices when it comes to healthcare.

My ND manages the majority of my healthcare needs whether it be my annual physical, lab orders, health screenings or prescription (s). She also refers me to other competent providers and specialists when appropriate. She has taught me about diet and nutrition, staying active, the management of day to day stress - notably during this time of Covid, improvement of my sleep resulting in me being more proactive in my healthcare. All of these come together to create a more complete treatment plan for my health and physical well being. I have never felt more confident in my health care.

In Oregon, Naturopathic Physicians have become full participants in the delivery of healthcare and have had prescriptive authority. SB 722 would provide fair payment for their services. I am asking you to vote yes on SB772 and support fair pay for Naturopathic Doctors.

Sincerely yours,

Susan Payseno