

Carol Hopwood
Bend, OR

Re: SB772, Please Support Fair Reimbursement for Naturopathic Doctors (NDs)

Dear Senate Health Care Committee,

5 Years ago I was diagnosed with Chronic Lymphocytic Leukemia and was told by 2 hemotologists that I would be on "watch and wait". I needed to wait until I was sick enough to receive chemo and other harsh treatments because that was all they knew to do for me. I was told there was nothing I could do except to stay healthy. However, they could offer not any guidance on how to do that.

Hence I sought consultations from Naturopathic Doctors (NDs). Now 5 years later my blood count is almost normal and at my last doctors visit I noticed that my chart note said I was in remission. This only happened because I had medical help from ND's who had a different approved and believed that there was something I could do to improve my health.

A huge stressor at that time (in addition to getting such a scary diagnosis) was that my insurance didn't cover ND's. Since I could not pay the \$1200 a month premium and huge deductible AND out of pocket for ND care I had to decide between my financial well being and my health.

I choose my health and used the savings from not having health insurance to pay for medical care that has helped me regain my health. Nobody should have to make that kind of choice .Please support SB772.

It is extremely unfair to limit our choices when it comes to getting help for life limiting health conditions..

Please vote yes on SB77

2 and support fair pay for Naturopathic Doctors.

Sincerely,

Carol Hopwood