

FROM THE DESK OF

## Gina Marie Kadow

**March 30, 2021**

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

Dear Senate Health Care Committee,

**YOU HAVE CANCER!!!!**

Those three words will change your life forever. You will never be able to have a peaceful nights sleep again. You will constantly wonder if treatment is going to stop working or if you should be doing more or getting other advice. I sincerely hope that those of you on this committee have never nor will ever experience such life changing words, but IF you have than you can relate to the fact you were so glad to have a great team of doctors and Insurance to cover the burdening expenses that came with that diagnosis. I am fortunate enough to have insurance but sadly it does not cover the wonderful Naturopathic Doctor that I have to help me through this frightful, depressing and sometimes frustrating Diagnosis, Treatment and to come out on the other side being reassured that I am okay and I will continue to grow stronger each day both physically, mentally and emotionally.

My name is **Gina M. Kadow** and 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 please support SB772.

I have worked with many types of medical providers, and none have taken the time and shown the care in my health and welfare like my naturopathic physician. The level of education, support and competent care that I have received has not only helped me move forward with my health conditions, but has renewed my faith in the healthcare system. My Doctor takes an inordinate amount of time to really listen to my fears and angst and to work on a plan to help me through these feelings along with giving me above and beyond excellent medical care.

Unfortunately, right now in Oregon NDs are not being fairly compensated for their valuable contributions to healthcare in this great state. This makes it more difficult for

people like me to access this unique and 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). They also refer me to other competent providers and specialists when appropriate. In addition, they teach me about diet and nutrition, how to stay active, manage stress, improve my sleep and become more proactive in my own healthcare. All of these things come together to create a more complete treatment plan for my health and I have never felt better. My medications that I get through my ND are not covered so this further adds to the cancer expense burden, which can cause a lot of undue anxiety and stress. Two things which are not healthy for cancer survivors to experience.

I am asking you to vote yes on SB772 and support fair pay for Naturopathic Doctors.

Sincerely yours,

**Gina M. Kadow**

**541-788-6636**

**Kadow41984@gmail.com**