I am writing to oppose HB 2493.

I appreciate the desire to keep the public healthy and safe. There are components of this bill that, without a doubt, have that intention.

Alternative medicine is a vast field. Alternative practitioners often utilize systems of healing that address the whole person, in ways that are at times hard to explain with the rational mind. My fear is that this bill would regulate these incredible practitioners in a way that would limit them from fully offering their gifts.

I have a masters degree in Chinese Medicine, but have also studied Reiki and shamanic healing for over 10 years. These are powerful modalities that have changed my life and the lives of many others for the better. It is beautiful that they are so accessible to the general public. It is helpful to not have a lot of applications and fees involved.

I ask that if regulation is imposed upon the alternative medicine field, that there is a better understanding as to what these practitioners offer. So that any bill written and passed serves to hold the community to a standard of care, yes, but in no way limits their amazing gifts.

Thank you, Kate Miller Chapman Portland, Oregon