

23566 NW Saint Helens Rd N-5
Portland, OR 97231

February 1, 2021

Re: HB2673, Support Fair Pay for Naturopathic Doctors (NDs)

Dear House and Senate Health Care Committees, Oregon Legislature,

My name is Cynthia S. Funk and I am a patient of a Naturopathic Doctor (ND) and your constituent. I would like to share my experience working with an ND as a medical provider and ask you to support HB2673.

Currently, I am seeing a naturopathic physician because my primary care physician with Providence Health recommended that I consult with a ND who specializes in gut motility issues. My primary care doctor thought there would be value in this approach as NDs typically work from a holistic/systems view of person's health.

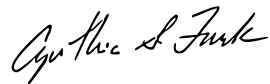
I am thankful to my primary care doctor for recommending this option. Under the care of my naturopathic physician, I have made significant progress in addressing the gut motility function which has helped my overall health. I am impressed with the level of education, support, and competent care that I have received from my ND. I am also grateful that my current health plan covers naturopathic care.

What I don't understand is why there is a difference in how NDs are compensated for their work compared to allopathic doctors. NDs provide unique and essential level of care for individuals like me and greatly contribute to the healthcare of Oregon residents.

Since I have been working with my ND, she now manages the majority of my healthcare needs whether it be my annual physical, lab orders, health screenings or prescription(s). She has referred me to other competent providers and specialists when appropriate. In addition, she has taught 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 resulting in better health.

I am asking you to vote yes on HB2673 and support fair pay for Naturopathic Doctors.

Sincerely yours,



Cynthia S. Funk