

Dear House and Senate Health Care Committees, Oregon Legislature,

My name is Rebecca Cooper and I am a critical care nurse at OHSU, a flight nurse for Life Flight Network and your constituent. It is imperative that we support as much access to primary care as possible now more than ever. Many of the patients I see end up in the situations they are in because they did not have access to regular primary care. I believe NDs are an important part of the preventative care networks we need to build in our communities. And so I ask you to please support HB2673.

I have worked with many naturopathic doctors in my career and have always found them to be competent, professional and focused on the welfare of their patients. They take the time to educate their patients and make sure they truly understand how to make the necessary changes in their health and routine in order to improve their situation.

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 my patients to access this unique and essential level of care and limits my choices when it comes to referrals within the healthcare system.

Right now our communities need more healthcare services not less. Providing NDs with equal pay will give more people across the state of Oregon access to naturopathic care and expand the referral network to this care for providers like me.

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

Sincerely yours,  
Rebecca Cooper, BS, BSN, RN-CCRN, CFRN