

February 2, 2022

Re: HB4006, Support Fair Pay for Naturopathic Doctors (NDs)

Dear Senate and Health Care Committee Members,

I am a patient of a Naturopathic Doctor (ND) and am asking you to please support HB4006.

My Naturopathic Doctor has played an essential role during my treatment for, and now recovery from, breast cancer. Because of my Naturopath's recommendations for dealing with side effects from chemo, I had significantly fewer and less severe side effects than several friends who have also gone through chemotherapy. My Medical Oncologist fully supported my working with a Naturopath during treatment and both she and my infusion nurses were impressed by how well I fared, especially given the intensity and length of my treatment.

Unfortunately, right now in Oregon NDs are not being fairly compensated for their valuable contributions to healthcare. This makes it more difficult for people to access this unique and essential type of care. As doctors licensed by the state, they should be compensated the same as MDs and DOs.

I am asking you to vote YES on HB4006 and support fair pay for Naturopathic Doctors.

Sincerely yours,

Michelle Ofstun