

House Bill 2555

Sponsored by Representatives NOSSE, HELFRICH, Senator KNOPP; Senator LIEBER (Presession filed.)

SUMMARY

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure **as introduced**.

Requires individual and group health benefit plans and benefit plans offered by Public Employees' Benefit Board and Oregon Educators Benefit Board to reimburse services provided by naturopathic physicians within scope of their practice if services are reimbursed when provided by licensed physicians. Requires reimbursement paid to naturopathic physician in independent practice to be in same amount as reimbursement paid to physician.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

1
2 Relating to naturopathic physicians; creating new provisions; and amending ORS 243.144 and
3 243.877.

4 **Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:**

5 **SECTION 1. Section 2 of this 2023 Act is added to and made a part of the Insurance Code.**

6 **SECTION 2. (1) As used in this section:**

7 (a) **"Health benefit plan" has the meaning given that term in ORS 743B.005.**

8 (b) **"Independent practice" means a practice at which a naturopathic physician bills**
9 **insurers for services provided by the naturopathic physician using the:**

10 (A) **Diagnosis and procedure codes applicable to the services;**

11 (B) **Naturopathic physician's own name; and**

12 (C) **Naturopathic physician's national provider identifier.**

13 (c) **"Naturopathic physician" has the meaning given that term in ORS 685.010.**

14 (d) **"Physician" has the meaning given that term in ORS 677.010.**

15 (2) **An individual or group health benefit plan that reimburses the cost of a service pro-**
16 **vided by a physician shall reimburse the cost of the same service provided by a naturopathic**
17 **physician if the service is within the scope of practice of the naturopathic physician.**

18 (3) **An individual or group health benefit plan shall reimburse the cost of a service pro-**
19 **vided by a naturopathic physician who is in an independent practice in the same amount and**
20 **using the same payment methodology as the reimbursement paid under the plan to a physi-**
21 **cian providing the service in the same setting and geographic area.**

22 (4) **An insurer may not reduce the reimbursement paid to a physician in order to comply**
23 **with this section.**

24 (5) **This section is exempt from ORS 743A.001.**

25 **SECTION 3. ORS 243.144, as amended by section 2, chapter 72, Oregon Laws 2022, is amended**
26 **to read:**

27 243.144. Benefit plans offered by the Public Employees' Benefit Board that reimburse the cost
28 of medical and other health services and supplies must comply with the requirements for health
29 benefit plan coverage described in:

30 (1) ORS 743A.058;

NOTE: Matter in **boldfaced** type in an amended section is new; matter *[italic and bracketed]* is existing law to be omitted.
New sections are in **boldfaced** type.

- 1 (2) ORS 743B.256;
- 2 (3) ORS 743B.420;
- 3 (4) ORS 743B.423;
- 4 (5) ORS 743B.601;
- 5 (6) ORS 743B.810; [*and*]
- 6 (7) ORS 743B.287 (4); **and**
- 7 **(8) Section 2 of this 2023 Act.**

8 **SECTION 4.** ORS 243.877, as amended by section 3, chapter 72, Oregon Laws 2022, is amended
9 to read:

10 243.877. Benefit plans offered by the Oregon Educators Benefit Board that reimburse the cost
11 of medical and other health services and supplies must comply with the requirements for health
12 benefit plan coverage described in:

- 13 (1) ORS 743A.058;
- 14 (2) ORS 743B.256;
- 15 (3) ORS 743B.420;
- 16 (4) ORS 743B.423;
- 17 (5) ORS 743B.601;
- 18 (6) ORS 743B.810; [*and*]
- 19 (7) ORS 743B.287 (4); **and**
- 20 **(8) Section 2 of this 2023 Act.**
