

ND pay parity is essential to my care

External

HB2555



Matri Lamb <matrilamb@gmail.com> 3:19 PM (10 minutes ago)

to me

Dear House Behavioral Health and Health Care Committee,

My name is Matri Lamb and I am a patient of a licensed naturopathic doctor (ND).

I have been dealing with chronic health issues for the past six years, and during that time I have received essential support from a number of naturopaths. I am certain I would be much sicker without the expertise and unique training that my current doctor offers. He has helped me zero in on the root causes of my debilitating fatigue and address it in an integrated way.

My ND manages the majority of my healthcare needs, whether it be my annual wellness visits, necessary lab and imaging tests, preventive screening exams or vital prescriptions. They also refer me to medical specialists as needed, working in partnership with other providers to offer a truly integrative approach to my healthcare.

Unfortunately, naturopathic doctors in Oregon are not being fairly compensated for the care they give me and for the important role they play in our state's healthcare workforce. Naturopathic doctors are paid about half of what all the other provider types (MDs, DOs, NPs and PAs) are paid for the same exact billing code and same service provided. This discrepancy puts my doctor on unstable financial ground and puts my access to my provider of choice in jeopardy. Naturopathic doctors are being forced to drop insurance plans to remain financially viable.

It is essential that I be able to utilize my health insurance to see my doctor. I cannot afford to both purchase health insurance and pay out of pocket for my regular and preventive care. It's not only unfair, it's unrealistic. I need my ND to stay in network with my insurance and to stay in business!

I am asking you to please vote yes on HB2555 and ensure access to licensed naturopathic doctors.

Sincerely,

Matri Lamb
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