

Dear House Behavioral Health and Health Care Committee,
My name is Kevin Diller I am a patient of a licensed naturopathic doctor (ND) and I'm writing in support of HB2555.

I see several doctors for some complicated health issues but I value my ND above all for regular care.

She is irreplaceable to me.

My ND manages the majority of my healthcare needs, including wellness visits, labs and imaging, preventive screening exams and 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. ND's 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,
Kevin Diller
Portland, OR 97210