

Submitter: Molly McCarthy

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Behavioral Health and Health Care

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB2143

Chair Nosse, Vice Chairs Nelson and Javadi, and Members of the Committee. I recently relocated from Nashville, TN to Portland, OR to study acupuncture because there aren't any schools in TN. The decision to move and go through 3 years of school for this career comes from a place of privilege and is not an accessible option for many people.

Acupuncture detoxification/ 5np is easily learned by lay individuals, broadly accessible, and can be administered in a broad range of environments with an incredibly low risk of harm. There would be a shorter program of study to become competent enough to provide treatments. This would make acupuncture practice more widely available to the general public, and help address public health emergencies such as the opioid epidemic and chronic stress. I urge you to vote in favor of HB 2143, as many states have already enacted similar laws to distinguish 5np from other acupuncture modalities.

Thank you.