Submitter: Haley Merritt

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Behavioral Health and Health

Care

Measure, Appointment or

Topic:

HB2143

I am in strong support of making 5np accessible to as many people who need it as possible. I have been an acupuncturist for 11 years and have worked in drug treatment centers. I have witnessed first hand the positive effects of this treatment on people with substance abuse issues and post traumatic stress which often go hand in hand. Many people have found the 5np treatment to greatly reduce their cravings and the anxiety and other withdrawal symptoms that accompany detoxing.

My father was diagnosed with liver failure due to alcoholism in 2016 and given 4 months to live. He received weekly 5np plus other acupuncture treatments and he was able to stop drinking and went on to live another 2 years. I am so thankful he had access to 5np treatments and that I got to have him in my life for those 2 extra years. I honestly don't think he could have stopped drinking without regular 5np treatment.

Right now many people don't have access to this treatment though and if we can change that we should. It's simple, safe, cost effective and easy to provide and it could literally save, improve the quality or extend someone's life. How can we in good conscience restrict someone's access to that?