

Submitter: Rawle Watkins Jr  
On Behalf Of: OANP  
Committee: House Committee On Behavioral Health and Health Care  
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3439

Being that healthcare is not the most optimal and due to a shortage of PCP in the state, NDs and other providers who are essentially doing the same work as their conventional counterparts should be equally compensated. Attending an institution of higher learning and acquiring massive student loan debt causes the debt to income ratio to be very unbalanced coupled with the lower wages makes it incredibly difficult to climb out from that mountain of debt. This affects quality of life and general overall wellbeing in the care that is delivered to patients as being a PCP can lead to burnout which makes it especially difficult due to not being able to make a living. I support this measure whole heartedly and would like a level playing field for all alternative practitioners in a primary care role.