

Submitter: Duane Oglesby

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Behavioral Health and Health Care

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3439

I am writing as a patient who relies on naturopathic medicine for my primary healthcare needs. I have built a strong and trusting relationship with my naturopathic physician, who provides me with compassionate, evidence-based care that integrates standard medical practices with dietary and lifestyle interventions. Their holistic approach to my health has been invaluable in managing my well-being and preventing illness.

However, I am deeply concerned about the disparities in reimbursement that naturopathic physicians face under Oregon's Medicaid system. Despite offering the same level of primary care as other healthcare providers, they are not reimbursed equitably, which threatens my ability to continue receiving the care I trust and depend on.

HB3439 is essential to ensure that patients like me can continue to access high-quality, patient-centered care from the providers we choose. By establishing pay parity for naturopathic physicians, this bill will help sustain and expand access to vital medical services, particularly for those of us who rely on Medicaid.

The preventive care I receive from my naturopathic doctor has made a significant difference in my health and quality of life. Their ability to spend time with me, address my concerns thoroughly, and focus on long-term wellness has kept me healthier and reduced my need for costly emergency interventions. This bill will not only support the professionals who provide this care but will also improve overall healthcare outcomes and cost-effectiveness for our state.

I urge you to support HB3439 and advocate for fair compensation for naturopathic physicians. Ensuring pay parity will protect patient choice, strengthen healthcare access, and uphold the quality of care for thousands of Oregonians like me.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I appreciate your commitment to improving healthcare access and equity in Oregon.

Sincerely,
Duane Oglesby