

Submitter: Haley Duffy

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Behavioral Health and Health Care

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3439

My name is Haley Duffy, and I am a naturopathic physician writing in strong support of HB 3439. I chose this profession because of my deep passion for naturopathic medicine and my commitment to serving Oregon communities by bridging the gap in primary care. However, the financial constraints I face due to immense student debt and unfair reimbursement rates threaten my ability to continue practicing in this state.

As a naturopathic physician, I strive to provide proactive, preventative care rather than reactive medicine. Our healthcare system is burdened by chronic disease, and patients deserve the opportunity to prevent illness before it escalates. Naturopathic medicine is uniquely positioned to address this need by focusing on holistic, patient-centered care. Yet, despite the vital role we play in keeping communities healthy, insurance reimbursement rates severely undervalue our work, making it nearly impossible to sustain a practice while repaying the significant debt required to become a healthcare provider.

I want to continue serving Oregonians, offering them the care they need to lead healthier lives. However, the financial burden of student debt combined with inadequate compensation forces many skilled naturopathic doctors to consider leaving the profession or the state altogether. Passing HB 3439 would provide much-needed financial stability and allow us to remain in practice, ensuring that more patients have access to comprehensive, preventative primary care.

Oregon faces a primary care shortage, and naturopathic doctors are ready and willing to help fill that gap. We should be fairly compensated for the essential services we provide so we can continue to care for our communities without being driven into financial hardship.

I urge you to support HB 3439 so that passionate, highly trained naturopathic physicians like myself can remain in Oregon and continue offering the high-quality, preventative care that our residents need and deserve.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,  
Dr. Duffy