


HB 3042 = Targeting & Overreach Against Naturopathic Doctors

- **Expands Fraud Accusations:** The bill changes language from "using fraud or deception" to "**making misleading, deceptive, or fraudulent representations**" in applying for a license. This broadens the board's power to accuse NDs of misconduct based on **subjective interpretation**, not clear fraud.
- **Creates a New Standard for Medical Claims:** Adds language stating NDs cannot make statements that are "**false or misleading regarding their skill or the efficacy of a treatment.**" This could force NDs to prove every treatment under **conventional medical standards**, limiting holistic and traditional therapies.
- **Punishes NDs Even If No Harm Occurs:** The bill allows for disciplinary action for "**substandard care**" even if **no patient harm occurs**. This is a **stricter standard than conventional medicine** and could be used to punish NDs based on differing philosophies of care.
- **Forces Costly Medical Evaluations Without Due Process:** The board can now require **mental, physical, or competency evaluations at the doctor's expense**, without clear evidentiary justification. There are **no safeguards** against politically motivated targeting.
- **Removes Confidentiality Protections:** The bill states that results of forced evaluations **must be reported to the board and can be used against the ND in disciplinary proceedings**, even if the findings are not incriminating. This sets a **dangerous precedent** for medical privacy violations.

- **Grants the Board Unlimited Rule-Making Power:** The board is given broad authority to **adopt new rules** beyond what is written in the bill, allowing future **restrictions without legislative oversight.**

 **This bill does not enhance patient safety—it creates vague, subjective standards that allow for selective enforcement against naturopathic doctors.**

What Needs to Change

- **Remove vague language** like "*misleading, deceptive, or fraudulent representations*" and "*substandard care*" without harm.
 - **Ensure free speech protections** so NDs cannot be punished for making reasonable treatment claims.
 - **Require clear due process** before forcing evaluations—NDs must not be subjected to psychiatric or medical exams for political reasons.
 - **Prevent the weaponization of complaints**—board actions should be based on evidence, not interpretation.
 - **Ensure the board cannot unilaterally expand disciplinary actions** beyond legislative intent.
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Next Steps

- **Amend HB 3042** to include clearer definitions, due process protections, and fairer review processes.
- **Remove provisions** that allow forced medical testing without a clear evidentiary standard.

- **Ensure naturopathic doctors are not unfairly held to different disciplinary standards than conventional practitioners.**
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Why This Bill is a Dangerous Overreach

- Expands fraud accusations **without defining what constitutes "misleading" claims.**
- Forces NDs to **meet conventional medical standards** for all treatments, restricting holistic care.
- Holds NDs **accountable for "substandard care" even when no harm occurs.**
- **Removes confidentiality protections** from forced medical evaluations.
- Grants **unchecked rule-making power** to the board, bypassing legislative oversight.

 **This bill threatens naturopathic medicine in Oregon. Urge lawmakers to OPPOSE HB 3042!**