

Submitter: Emily Carl

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Behavioral Health and Health Care

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3439

Naturopathic doctors are so important as they help heal more levels of a person than traditional medicine does. Countless testimonies from patients say naturopathic doctors beautifully balance western pharmaceutical medicine and alternative methods as we are all different and respond differently to treatments; one size does not fit all.

A naturopath I used to work with would call her practice a "non-profit". Not because she has a 501c3 organization, this was a statement that her business barely gets by because insurance does not pay enough for her practice to survive.

At my current office, I witness almost daily an incredible imbalance of output and input. Dr. Breen pours her whole heart and soul into each visit (most of which go on for about 1.5 hours). And when we, the office staff process her EOB's from these insurance companies, sometimes they only pay \$20 or \$50 for a visit. This is a huge imbalance. And then as a business, sometimes she has to make decisions that will keep her doors open like no longer accept insurances that pay her so little for her expertise and time. This excludes some people from being able to seek her care.

Investing in healthcare and wellness practices is investing in our future - giving people more health, and in turn a larger capacity to be there and build a brighter tomorrow for our youth, ourselves, and each other.

Thank you,

Emily