

TESTIMONY SUBMITTED 02/28/25 re: HB 3439

As someone who has benefitted from the care of a naturopath when my regular doctor (MD) admitted she had no idea how to help me with my mold exposure- from my classroom as a teacher in public school that I worked in over 40 hours a week for 4 years before I was no longer able to function- I whole heartedly support any bill to allow naturopath and functional medicine doctors to be reimbursed for their services. Their ability to look at the whole person and not just a symptom that can be treated by a surgery or prescription helped me to navigate the healing of this mycotoxin exposure. I would also like to see that the tests, treatments, and vitamins that support the body also be covered. As a licensed pharmacist for over 30 years, I knew that prescriptions would not be the effective treatment plan for my healing, although it could help with some symptoms. A mold specialist can take up to 2 years of additional training to support people like me. Medical costs add up fast when paying for an expensive insurance and not getting any benefits back.

I strongly support HB 3439.

Traditional allopathic medical school trained doctors cannot offer many sufferers of chronic illnesses the treatment they so much deserve due to the limits of their training. Just like I was limited in my training as a licensed pharmacist – as there is no prescription that absorbs the mycotoxins out of my body or would compensate for my genetic deficiency that impaired my ability to detox from my environment. We live in an increasingly complex and toxic planet with pollution from diesel fuel, fragrance oils, EMF, electronics, Round-up ready foods and more- that are not treated with prescriptions and surgery. We need the wholistic practioner’s to help us get back on our feet and back into the world. Our wonderful allopathic doctors are helpful in many ways and limited to what they can write a prescription for. So much good can be done by valuing the work of both allopathic and wholistic doctors by providing reimbursement through insurance when people need it the most- when they are sick, confused and misunderstood and missing work. Naturopaths and functional doctors are needed more than ever now! Their work and ways of treating the entire patient create healthier people that make better choices and live healthier once they are educated and treated. Mold is only one chronic difficult illness to understand and treat, there are many others; autoimmune, Lyme’s, multiple sclerosis to name a few. And some of these would be less expensive to treat with natural approaches rather than expensive and often experimental prescriptions. Most people don’t even know that there are other ways to get better than allopathic care when treating chronic and difficult diseases. They suffer for 10 to 15 years in pain, depression, isolation, difficulty in maintaining a job before being helped by a naturopath or functional medical doctor- because it is “not covered” on their insurance.

PLEASE MAKE A DIFFERENCE AND VOTE YES ON HB 3439.

Thank you,

Retired Pharmacist, Retired Teacher and Mold poisoning survivor