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LD 1128

This testimony is from Polya Brandoff, resident of Rockport, Maine.

I am writing/speaking in support of LD 1128.

I have had the chance to work with NDs twice in the past 8 years - both times for period of prolonged care lasting 8+ months.

The proactive, holistic, whole body approach taken by NDs is one I find to fit so well my needs as a complex organism affected by factors such as lifestyle, emotional and mental well being/social support, nutrition/dietary choices, hormonal health, and so many more factors than are typically considered from the perspective of Western medicine on its own.

The diagnostic and therapeutic journey with an ND is thoughtfully designed to unfold over time, to be aided by a variety of tests and adaptations to diet, lifestyle, supplementation, etc. As such, such journey does not translate well to switching back and forth between the care of an ND and that of a doctor trained in the model of Western medicine where the focus is far more on treating acute illness symptoms than on preventative care and holistic health.

Giving NDs the ability to prescribe medications would prevent delays in getting these medications prescribed from other medical professionals, when I need to switch care between practices. Furthermore, I trust my ND to have a more in-depth understanding how supplements I take interact with the prescribed medications thereby significantly improving my healthcare outcomes and positive experience.

When I have a non-ND physician prescribe my medication, I need to find ways to "impart" the complex knowledge and healing outcomes I have reached with my ND in order to have my medication adjusted whereas I could trust my ND to do the same safely and conveniently, if they were allowed to prescribe medications.