

Members of the Health Coverage, Insurance and Financial Services Committee,

I am writing to express my support for Bill LD 1128 to modernize the pharmaceutical prescribing rights of Naturopathic Doctors in Maine.

I am not a medical professional, nor an ND patient, but as the husband of an ND and the brother and son to primary care physicians, I have a strong appreciation for the value of preventative medicine, as well as the inherent waste in the healthcare system due to antiquated, bureaucratic, and often illogical rules that govern healthcare in this country.

NDs care for some of the sickest and most complex patients in our state. These patients often pay for ND services out of pocket after the 'traditional' healthcare system has failed them. When their ND's prescription rights are needlessly limited to a level inconsistent with their training, it burdens those patients with added time, expense, and potentially trauma, to receive the care they need. It also puts undue stress on an already overtaxed healthcare system and providers that are struggling to keep up with demand.

LD 1128 makes sense for patients, providers, insurers, and for the State of Maine; I urge you to approve it.

Thank you,

Eddie Kingman