

LD 2242

Review Prescriptive Authority of Naturopathic Doctors

My name is Melanie Collins. I'm an RN from Falmouth.

-Mainers could benefit from having Naturopathic doctors able to prescribe nutrients to improve their health, especially in rural areas and with a limited supply of doctors per capita.

-In my almost 40 years as a nurse, I have seen remarkable recoveries and changes in people from a single IV of the simple nutrients of magnesium and vitamin C. I've seen people go from being confused or unable to talk, eat or drink or swallow, to being able to function completely normally.

-This Bill could open up a cost-effective way for people, afflicted with intense stress, drug or alcohol abuse to feel better and recover, with an IV at a ND's office or at home, like they can get in many other states, like New Hampshire and Vermont.

-In January 2021, I was paralyzed for four days from a low back ache which ended up seizing my entire spine within a few hours. Unable to move, my grown children lifted me into bed, in excruciating pain. I didn't have a primary care doctor, as my doctor retired and I was on five waitlists for the next one. There aren't enough doctors to go around. Period.

So I relied on my experience giving magnesium IV in the hospital to expectant mothers to save lives by relaxing muscles naturally, to treat myself at home with oral magnesium. Magnesium is preferred for pregnancy because it's a nutrient without any side effects on the unborn child, unlike the dangerous side effects that medications have. I was able to take oral magnesium every hour until I replenished enough to relax the muscles and begin to walk with crutches after four days.

Luckily, I found a DO, who gave me an IV with magnesium every week, at his office, until I could keep up with the amount I needed orally. I was back to normal and back to work in 2 days. Unfortunately he could not be my primary care doctor.

I was lucky, being a nurse. I had contacts and I had enough money to afford the simple treatment I needed at the time.

I'm still on five waitlists for that other doctor and it's going on 5 years.

In November, I had an eye emergency. Since I didn't have a primary care doctor, I would have to pay for everything out-of-pocket, even though I had good insurance coverage!

Thank God, I had connections. I obtained a doctor by prepaying \$3000. That was a phenomenal stroke of luck. I ended up needing eye surgery and then in December, had an emergency appendectomy. None of it would've been covered by my excellent insurance plan without referrals from my new primary doctor! I would be in debt over \$80,000.

I asked my insurance company to consider the \$3000 of prepaid doctor costs as part of my co-pay toward my insurance deductible. I was literally told that the prepay

doctor is called “concierge service”. And that “having a doctor available when you needed them was considered a luxury and it wasn’t covered by insurance!”

Mainers shouldn’t have to be lucky, have connections, or have to pay an extra \$3,000 on in order to see a doctor when they need one.

-Please pass this Bill to take pressure off the shortage of doctors.

-Please pass it to make simple, safe nutrients able to be given by IV, that can save Mainer’s lives, add to their well-being and return them to work, made available to them from their ND, just like our neighbor states.

Don’t vote for it for Maine

Don’t vote for it for your friends or family

Vote for it for yourself, so you can go replenish yourself with nutrients you are depleted in when you need to and possibly keep yourself out of the ER, like I did, or restore your natural balance for the healthiest you, under the guidance of ND’s that are educated for this purpose.

Appreciatively Submitted,

Melanie A Collins RN

Falmouth, ME

(207)838-8183

Please feel free to contact me with any questions.

Namaste',

Melanie