

Brittney Hattoy – H2799 – Support

Dear Chairwoman Donovan,

I, Brittney Hattoy, am writing to ask for your support of passing of the bill, H7299, to improve patients' accessibility to medical care from licensed Naturopathic Physicians.

For over 10 years, I waded through the murky waters of our traditional healthcare system, desperately trying to find any positive solutions for me and my child's ambiguous health issues. After countless visits to my child's pediatrician, we explored other treatments as well through infectious disease control, occupational therapy, and craniosacral therapy. For my own health issues, I have gone to gastrointestinal doctors, hematologists, otolaryngologists, and craniosacral therapists. All of these visits have been covered or mostly covered through my insurance with Blue Cross, which made it viable to keep exploring new possible health solutions through these treatments. **However, none of these treatments have positively served me and my child quite like the services rendered through our naturopathic doctor.** After years of no solutions and little to no information about our obscure health issues, we arrived at **all of the answers** we needed through the naturopathic direction. Our naturopathic doctors ran extensive tests and spent a considerable amount of time with us at each appointment looking at our health holistically rather than focusing on one issue at a time. The holistic approach has not only healed us in ways that felt incomprehensible, but has also given us the tools and knowledge to understand our health needs moving forward. These services are paramount for patients with unclear health needs. Naturopathic doctors play an important role in the assessment of the patient and can provide information that serves specialized doctors in a meaningful way as well. My primary care physician is excellent and has been working hand in and hand with my naturopathic doctor to care for me. It is baffling that the naturopathic services are not recognized as a critically important piece of this puzzle.

Despite our overwhelmingly positive experiences with our naturopathic doctors, I would be remiss to not mention that the cost of paying for these services entirely out of pocket has been challenging. I pay considerable money for private health insurance through Blue Cross and essentially gain no benefits from having it. Passage of this bill is extremely important to me, as it would allow individuals and families to have access to healthcare that accesses and treats the whole patient that has not found solutions through traditional care and treatments. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Brittney Hattoy
41 Darling St.
Warwick, RI 02886