

February 14, 2024

Study Commission Members

Rhode Island Legislature

HouseHealthandHumanServices@rilegislature.gov

Dear Study Commission members, I Kara DeMorro am writing to you to ask for your support in passing this bill to improve patients' accessibility to medical care from licensed Naturopathic Physicians. Passage of this bill is extremely important to me as I need and use these services on a regular basis but must limit myself due to the astronomical out-of-pocket costs. I am a breast cancer survivor of 4 years and the form of cancer I had was aggressive. I always research and educate myself before making any medical decisions. My research led me to integrative medicine. I truly believe without the incorporation of holistic medicine into my conventional treatments my life would be very different. To maintain my overall health, I continue to incorporate naturopathic medicine in my life, but I am unable to do as much as I would like due to the services not being covered by insurance. I am blessed to have some financial support that allows me to receive what little bit I can get but everyone should be able to receive and have access to these practitioners. I feel the only way to access these practitioners is if you are wealthy or have some additional financial support and I find this unfair and inhumane. When facing issues that arise in one's health the last thing one should worry about is how they can afford to see a practitioner.

Thank you for your time, consideration, and support.

Sincerely,

Kara A. DeMorro

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