

Steven Sepe

From: Amy Salomone <amylsalomone@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 14, 2024 12:45 PM
To: House Health and Human Services Committee
Subject: Amy Salomone: Naturopathic medicine study commission support

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Amy Salomone: Naturopathic medicine study commission support

Dear Study Commission members, I, Amy Salomone, am writing to ask for your support in passing this bill to improve patients' accessibility to medical care from licensed Naturopathic Physicians.

As you may or may not have experienced, medical care in this country has reached its tipping point. Our medical costs as a nation are increasing while our health is deteriorating. Chronic diseases such as cardiovascular disease, autoimmune disease and cancer have increased exponentially since the middle of the 20th century. Our medical system has become a "sick" care system, wonderful at responding to acute medical intervention but insufficient at best, at understanding the root of health and disease.

The approach of naturopathic medicine is to understand the body as not a sequestration of separate systems, but instead an integrated biochemical and microbial masterpiece. At the root of our health lies our food and movement choices, stress reduction, time in nature and fostering of social ties. This approach to medicine not only sees the body as a whole organism, but it aims to understand and manage the root cause of disease.

This is the future of our health in this country.

I have a degree in microbiology and an advanced degree in cellular biology and I often sit in a room with doctors whose training minimally prepares them for understanding the body on a cellular or microbial level. This is paramount. It's time that this state allows people to become their own health advocates and find practitioners that will work with them to not only fix disease, but to reverse and prevent it.

A vote to support access to Naturopathic doctors through expanded insurance coverage of RI citizens, is a vote in support of much needed progress. Think of all of the lives this one vote could irrevocably change for the better.

Thank you for your consideration,

Amy Salomone