

Dear Representative Shanley and the Special Legislative Study Commission,

I strongly support licensed Naturopathic Physicians becoming Providers for my medical plan, BC/BS BlueChip for Medicare. I have been a patient of Naturopathic Physician Angela McCann, and have seen firsthand that her work can positively impact health using preventative medicine. Her approach focusing on the whole health of a patient is ideally suited for patients in Rhode Island.

Naturopathic Physicians save money for the Insurance Companies. Naturopathic Physicians using dietary interventions and lifestyle education along with supplementation have reduced my need for more expensive procedures. My Naturopathic Physician was able to help me with many issues especially with medicine to help reduce the size of the lesion in my spleen. These issues increase healthcare system spending and I am proof that naturopathic medicine has saved my insurance company money, as I have not needed more costly surgeries or medications since I began working with my Naturopathic Physician. Rhode Islanders deserve to have access to this form of cost saving care. Rhode Islanders also deserve to explore alternative care physicians and have their health care share the cost.

My Naturopathic Physician, Angela McCann, works closely with other providers. She refers me to and receives referrals from Medical Doctors, Doctors of Osteopathy, and allied health professionals.

Respectfully,

Eugene T. Ripa, Jr.
4162 Post Road
Unit 6
Warwick, RI 02818
State Representative District 24