



WELLSPRING

Integrative Medical Center

March 17, 2011

Dear Alaskan Legislators:

I write in support of House Bill 122 which would allow Naturopathic Doctors (ND) to practice as trained, to establish a ND Board to assure public safety, to prescribe legend drugs, to become eligible to serve Medicaid patients and to formalize the mandate for continuing education requirements.

Wellspring, an Integrative Medical Center, located in Juneau, Alaska has employed a Naturopathic Doctor for ten years. Patients constantly acknowledge their gratefulness for this option of the partnership with their doctor who cares for the whole person. In the United States the classic medical model focuses on pathology: the diagnosis, treatment and rehabilitation of pathology. The classic naturopath model focuses on the whole person and integrating care to discover the causes of pathology and to promote health practices to support health and prevent disease. However, Dr. Neary, the Naturopath at Wellspring, has not been able to fully practice his profession in Alaska because there is no ND Board overseeing the totality of his practice for which he was educated for four years post-baccalaureate degree.

Please support this House Bill 122 to improve wellness and health care for all Alaskans, to increase access to ND care and to provide cost-effective options for our communities.

Please contact me if you have further questions. I have been in private ANP practice for twenty years and have been an ANP in Alaska for thirty three years. The collaboration with Dr. Neary for the past ten years has benefited our practice and our community.

Sincerely,

Constance Trollan, Advanced Nurse Practitioner
Owner, Wellspring
Past President, Alaska Nurse Association