

Members of the Senate Labor and Commerce Committee:

My name is Joyce Sarles and I urge you to support Senate Bill 120 (SB120), which updates the scope of practice for Naturopathic doctors to reflect their education and training.

I have been a patient of, Emily Kane, a Naturopathic doctor, in Juneau for over 30 years. There have been times during those years that she has been restricted in the care she was able to provide. For example, it would have been much less complicated if she could have prescribed antibiotics for an infection rather than making it necessary for me to see an additional health care provider that was not as familiar with my health care needs to obtain the necessary antibiotic.

Health care costs in Alaska are among the highest in the country. This places a tremendous burden on Alaskan families, creates a drag on the overall economy, and is one of the key drivers for government spending. Although difficult to address completely, SB120 offers one obvious step in the right direction.

The changes proposed in SB120 reflect a scope of practice that is being practiced safely and effectively by naturopathic physicians in many other states around the country. Given our unique health care challenges in Alaska, we should be leading the charge in pursuing policies which provide consumers with more options and greater access to affordable care.

Allowing naturopathic doctors to do what they are trained to do will not only benefit me as a consumer, but will benefit the state overall, by increasing competition and helping to drive down health care costs in Alaska. In addition, since naturopathic doctors focus more on preventative health, this bill, if passed, will help decrease the need for expensive health care for Alaskans well into the future.

Thank you in advance for your support of SB120, and for taking one step toward better health care in our great state.

Joyce Sarles

1-16-18

Dear Senator Costello and Members of Senate Labor and Commerce Committee

I am writing to encourage you to place SB 120 on the Senate Labor and Commerce Committee's agenda at your earliest convenience to give the committee an opportunity to vet the bill and forward it to the next step in the legislative process.

As pointed out in the bill sponsor's statement:

"SB120 establishes a clear scope of practice for naturopathic doctors, consistent with their nationally accredited education and training. In doing so, this bill will increase options, access and competition in Alaska's health care market.

Current law provides little definition of what naturopathic doctors can and cannot do. This has led to very conservative regulatory interpretations over the years, resulting in Alaska having some of the more restrictive regulations in the nation."

I and my family prefer the more holistic approach naturopaths take to preserving and restoring health and find their services very beneficial. I see no reason the state should restrict naturopaths from serving the public to the extent of their capability.

I would expect that state regulators would be glad to allow naturopaths more latitude to serve the public as well.

Thank you,

Mike Prax
1015 Meadow Rue
North Pole, AK 99705
(907) 378-5667

1-16-18

TO: Members of the Senate Labor and Commerce Committee
CC: All Legislators

Members of the Senate Labor and Commerce Committee:

My name is Kourtney Roy and I am writing to urge you to support Senate Bill 120 (SB120), which updates the scope of practice for Naturopathic doctors to reflect their education and training. I think this is extremely important considering the rigorous work that these doctors go through to obtain their degree. Individual's should have a choice about the kind of practitioner they are going to see to best care for themselves.

I can give an example of this care from my own personal life. My naturopathic doctor was on maternity leave and I attempted to see a physician in town about some health concerns. It took me 6 weeks to get an appointment, and when I went in for the appointment I didn't get to see the doctor I had asked for and scheduled for, but another practitioner that is a PA-C. I was spoke to for about 5 minutes about what was going on, given a prescription and many, many vials to provide samples all with different instructions. Following her maternity leave I called to see my naturopath, I was able to get in the following week about the same problem. I was able to sit down with the doctor and discuss what was going on for over 30 minutes, she asked about my diet, activity, stress levels, sleep, etc. and we developed a plan of action to care for myself, which included providing medically necessary samples. I understand that this is not everyone's goal when working with health care providers, but I also think their education and abilities should be considered comparable to that of other types of practitioners in town.

The changes proposed in SB120 reflect a scope of practice that is being practiced safely and effectively by naturopathic physicians in many other states around the country. Given our unique health care challenges in Alaska, we should be leading the charge in pursuing policies which provide consumers with more options and greater access to affordable care.

Allowing naturopathic doctors to do what they are trained to do will not only benefit me as a consumer, but will benefit the state overall, by increasing competition and helping to drive down health care costs in Alaska. In addition, since naturopathic doctors focus more on preventative health, this bill, if passed, will help decrease the need for expensive health care for Alaskans well into the future.

Thank you in advance for your support of SB120, and for taking one step toward better health care in our great state.

Sincerely,

Kourtney Roy, MS, CSCS, EIM

1-13-18

To: Members of the Alaska Senate Labor and Commerce Committee

Mia Costello, Shelley Hughes, Kevin Meyer, Gary Stevens, Berta Gardner, Cathy Giessel

CC: Jane Conway and AK Naturopaths,

Dear Committee Members,

I'm Kevin Painter from Eagle River, Alaska and I'm writing to urge you to support Senate Bill 120 (SB120), which appropriately updates the scope of practice for Naturopathic doctors. This update is vital to help reflect their education and training.

Allowing naturopathic doctors to do what they are highly trained to do will help me, my wife Kacy, and our son Hayden when dealing with current or possibly future health care needs. Our family have utilized numerous naturopath doctors in Alaska. In many cases, it was their care and treatment that addressed/healed many of our conditions and helped us remain productive workers, a student, and Eagle River community members. I can't stress how important this update and their service are to Alaskans like ourselves. In addition, their care has reduced our health care expenses to our insurance (Blue Cross & Blue Shield) and our out of pocket costs.

Thank you in advance for your support of SB120, and for taking one step toward better and more economical health care in the GREAT LAND- Alaska.

Thank you,

Kevin Painter

9640 Etolin Circle (Eaglewood Subd.)

Eagle River, AK 99577

1-11-18

To Whom It May Concern,

This letter is being written to urge you to support SB 120 to increase the scope of practice for Naturopathic Doctors.

I am a lifelong Alaskan who utilizes naturopathic medicine in several contexts. I myself see a naturopathic doctor, and value the emphasis on disease prevention. In addition, I work as a mental health counselor with adolescents and adults. I often refer my patients to naturopathic services and have seen the value of their work beyond my own health.

Naturopathic doctors in Alaska have a more limited scope of practice than other health care providers with equal or lesser training. There are many states that do offer a larger scope of practice to Naturopaths and they are able to practice safely, and offer more services to their patients. The health care costs in our state are huge, and we deserve to have options for our care, and to allow more competition for medical services to drive down costs in Alaska.

Again, I urge you to support SB 120 and allow Alaskan's to work safely with Naturopathic doctors, in an environment where their scope of practice reflects their extensive training.

Thank you,

Olivia Foote
Licensed Professional Counselor

1-8-18

Members of the Senate Labor and Commerce Committee:

I am writing to urge you to support Senate Bill 120 (SB120), which updates the scope of practice for Naturopathic doctors to reflect their education and training, bringing it more in line with what is practiced safely and effectively by Naturopathic physicians in many other states around the country.

As the national debate in the past year has highlighted, health care costs in Alaska are among the highest in the country. This places a tremendous burden on Alaskan families and is one of the key drivers for government spending. We should be pursuing policies which can cut health care costs. SB120 is a step in the right direction.

I have been treated by Naturopathic doctors and found their treatment approach quite effective. They use a holistic approach of getting to the root cause of health problems, including addressing dietary excesses and deficiencies, as well as exercise, stress, and sleep status. I've found in my personal experience that conventional medicine has become increasingly characterized by very limited office visits and an over reliance on prescription medications which suppress symptoms, with little attention to resolving the underlying causes. I believe that this approach does far too little in the way of preventing health issues from escalating into expensive full-blown and chronic diseases. Prescription medications are sometimes needed in the short term, combined with a robust focus on discovering the underlying cause of the health issue and preventing future problems. It has been a source of frustration for me in the past that my naturopathic physicians have not had the ability to prescribe medications as part of their treatment plan. As a result, I've had to also use the services of nurse practitioners, physician's assistants or MDs, increasing costs to myself and to my healthcare plan.

I'm a retired Alaskan teacher, insured under the AlaskaCare plan. Savings in my healthcare cost are savings for the State. Naturopathic medicine is a good modality for preventing and resolving expensive health conditions. Allowing naturopathic doctors to do what they are trained to do will not only benefit the Alaskan people, but will benefit the state overall, by helping to reduce health care costs in Alaska.

Thank you in advance for your support of SB120, and for taking one step toward better health care in our state.

Sincerely,
Ann Agosti-Hackett
PO Box 15344
Fritz Creek AK 99603

Date: January 8, 2018

TO: Members of the Senate Labor and Commerce Committee

CC: All Legislators

Members of the Senate Labor and Commerce Committee:

My name is Patricia Jeffers and I am writing to urge you to support Senate Bill 120 (SB120), which updates the scope of practice for Naturopathic doctors to reflect their education and training.

Health care costs in Alaska are among the highest in the country. This places a tremendous burden on Alaskan families, creates a drag on the overall economy, and is one of the key drivers for government spending. Although difficult to address completely, SB120 offers one obvious step in the right direction.

The changes proposed in SB120 reflect a scope of practice that is being practiced safely and effectively by naturopathic physicians in many other states around the country. Given our unique health care challenges in Alaska, we should be leading the charge in pursuing policies which provide consumers with more options and greater access to affordable care.

Allowing naturopathic doctors to do what they are trained to do will not only benefit me as a consumer, but will benefit the state overall, by increasing competition and helping to drive down health care costs in Alaska. In addition, since naturopathic doctors focus more on preventative health, this bill, if passed, will help decrease the need for expensive health care for Alaskans well into the future.

I have personally had such wonderful assistance from my naturopath physician that continued improvements can only benefit us all. Again I repeat that helping here by this change will allow more focus - especially on preventative, as it has certainly made quality difference in my health and many others with health issues.

Thank you in advance for your support of SB120, and for taking one step toward better health care in our great state.

Respectfully,

Patricia L. Jeffers

8761 Jewel Terrace Circle

Anchorage, AK 99502

Members of the Senate Labor and Commerce Committee:

My name is Ruth Carter, a resident near Sand Lake in Anchorage. I am writing to urge you to support Senate Bill 120 (SB120), which updates the scope of practice for Naturopathic doctors to reflect their education and training.

Health care costs in Alaska are among the highest in the country. This places a tremendous burden on Alaskan families, creates a drag on the overall economy, and is one of the key drivers for government spending. Although difficult to address completely, SB120 offers one obvious step in the right direction.

The changes proposed in SB120 reflect a scope of practice that is being practiced safely and effectively by naturopathic physicians in many other states around the country. Given our unique health care challenges in Alaska, we have the opportunity to be the leaders in pursuing policies that provide consumers with more options and greater access to affordable care.

I have seen a naturopathic doctor as my primary care provider for over 20 years now. While I understand the benefits of medication when needed, I am a strong proponent of the great care I have received.

Allowing naturopathic doctors to do what they are trained to do will not only benefit me as a consumer, but will benefit the state overall, by increasing competition and helping to drive down health care costs in Alaska. In addition, since naturopathic doctors focus more on preventative health, this bill, if passed, will help decrease the need for expensive health care for Alaskans well into the future.

Thank you in advance for your support of SB120, and for taking one step toward better health care in our great state.

Best regards,

Ruth Carter

PO Box 221472,

Anchorage AK 99522

907-333-3756

Please support Senate Bill 120 when you are presented the opportunity.

It makes sense to have Naturopathic physicians provide their medical talents to Alaskans.

My experiences with Naturopathic physicians in Alaska dates back to 1979, just prior to the birth of our first of three children.

All three benefitted from ND care, and all are healthy and productive as they age.

Rick Dawson, Alaskan for nearly 50 years

PO Box 93054

Anchorage, AK 99509

90 243 1262

dawson@rrdawson.com

1-5-18

TO: Members of the Senate Labor and Commerce Committee

CC: All Legislators

Members of the Senate Labor and Commerce Committee:

My name is Susan Barnes and I am writing to urge you to support Senate Bill 120 (SB120), which updates the scope of practice for Naturopathic doctors to reflect their education and training.

I have always sought out naturopathic care for my family and have often been frustrated that they are often limited in what they can perform in our state in comparison to other states. It seems ridiculous to me to limit perfectly qualified practitioners from performing the work they have been trained today. In an overworked health care system naturopathic doctors provide an alternative choice to Alaskans.

Health care costs in Alaska are among the highest in the country. This places a tremendous burden on Alaskan families, creates a drag on the overall economy, and is one of the key drivers for government spending. Although difficult to address completely, SB120 offers one obvious step in the right direction.

The changes proposed in SB120 reflect a scope of practice that is being practiced safely and effectively by naturopathic physicians in many other states around the country. Given our unique health care challenges in Alaska, we should be leading the charge in pursuing policies which provide consumers with more options and greater access to affordable care.

Allowing naturopathic doctors to do what they are trained to do will not only benefit me as a consumer, but will benefit the state overall, by increasing competition and helping to drive down health care costs in Alaska. In addition, since naturopathic doctors focus more on preventative health, this bill, if passed, will help decrease the need for expensive health care for Alaskans well into the future.

Thank you in advance for your support of SB120, and for taking one step toward better health care in our great state.

Sincerely,

Susan Barnes

December 2, 2017

TO: Members of the Senate Labor and Commerce Committee

CC: All Legislators

RE: Senate Bill 120

Ms. Conway,

My name is Triann McAllister and I am writing you to urge you to please support Senate Bill 120, which seeks to update the scope of practice for Naturopathic doctors. This bill will allow the Naturopaths to use their education and training to the best of their abilities.

The changes proposed in SB 120 reflect a scope of practice that is being practiced safely and effectively by naturopathic physicians in many other states around our great country. I would love to see Alaska, with our very unique challenges in basic health care, lead in the changing of policies that provide consumers with more options as to the type of care they receive and with greater access to affordable care.

Allowing naturopathic doctors to do what they were trained to do will benefit the state over all by increasing competition and helping to drive down health care costs in Alaska. And best of all, in my opinion, since naturopathic doctors focus more on preventative health and helping the body heal itself, if this bill is passed, it will help decrease the need for expensive health care for Alaskans well into the future.

Thank you in advance for your support of SB 120 for a critical step in better health care for all Alaskans.

Triann M. McAllister

P.S. I have recently changed to a Naturopath for treatment of reflux and type 2 diabetes and the scope of care that I am now receiving is quite different. I want her as my primary care physician and if SB 120 is passed, she will be able to prescribe my needed pharmaceuticals thus allowing her to enter into the scope of my medical care as a regular MD and I won't need to continue with the "mainstream" clinics as I now do for the needed prescriptions.

11-29-17

Dear Senator,

My name is Dena Kelley, I live in Eagle River, Alaska. I am writing to ask you to vote in support of SB120. As a patient whose primary care physician is a Naturopathic Doctor, I strongly believe that my doctor should be able to practice medicine in accordance with her high level of training. It makes no sense to me that a Nurse Practitioner, as an example, can write a prescription for Rx medicine but my doctor with her higher level of training cannot currently do so in the State of Alaska. This forces me, as a patient, to see other Doctors or Nurse Practitioners for redundant blood work and to pay additional medical bills in order to receive the medicines that my ND should be able to prescribe. It costs me more personal time, more time off work, and several hundred dollars per doctor visit each time I have to do this.

Naturopathic medicine is wonderfully complimentary to standard medicine and benefits the State of Alaska by having highly trained ND's here to serve Alaskan patients. In the past 8 years, my ND has earned my trust and has become my primary care physician- I see her before I see any other doctor. She has found the root cause and treated my acid reflux (which I had been on 9 years of Rx acid blocking meds for previously), she found and treated my Hashimotos thyroiditis (which had been missed by other doctors), she has found and treated me for severe food allergies and sensitivities which has enabled me to lose 90 lbs, and she was able to treat and cure my chronic back pain that another doctor only prescribed Vicodin for. No other doctor ever even suggested that there may be a treatable root cause to my conditions. My health is vastly better under the care of my Naturopathic Physician, and I know other Alaskans would benefit greatly as well. By treating root cause of illness, it allows patients to return to health, rather than to remain chronically ill and dependent on prescriptions for the long term. This saves money overall- a healthy person is inexpensive to insure, doesn't need to take sick days, and can work longer over the course of their lifetime. There's a real benefit to society, and supporting SB120 will help Alaskans to realize the full benefits of Naturopathic care that other states already enjoy, and by enabling Naturopathic Doctors to practice the full scope of medicine they have been trained for, Alaska can begin to attract more ND's to practice here.

It's frustrating to me as a patient to be forced to spend extra time and extra money seeing another doctor I don't need to see simply to get the medicine my Naturopathic Doctor has already told me I need but is unable to prescribe. Please support SB120.

Thank you,

Dena Kelley

PO Box 771003

26600 White Spruce Drive

Eagle River, AK 99577

(907) 229-0896

11-14-2017

Members of the Senate Labor and Commerce Committee:

My name is Melissa Lilly. I live in Anchorage and am writing to urge you to support Senate Bill 120 (SB120), which updates the scope of practice for Naturopathic doctors to reflect their education and training. I feel this is so important for us who live in Alaska. I am a patient of a Naturopathic doctor and have very good health because of him. I just wish he could do what he is trained to do. Allowing naturopathic doctors to do what they are trained to do will not only benefit me as a consumer, but will benefit the state as a whole. It will increase competition and help drive down health care costs in Alaska. In addition, since naturopathic doctors focus more on preventative health, this bill, if passed, will help decrease the need for expensive health care well into the future.

The changes proposed in SB120 reflect a scope of practice that is being practiced safely and effectively by naturopathic physicians in many other states around the country. Given our unique health care challenges in Alaska, we should be leading the charge in pursuing policies which provide consumers with more options and greater access to affordable care.

I am hoping you will support SB120 and help us make Alaska a healthier state.

Sincerely,

Melissa Lilly

DEAR SENATOR GIessel,

9 NOVEMBER, 2017

AS I MENTIONED TO YOU RECENTLY IN AN EMAIL THAT I SENT YOU, I WANT TO VOICE MY SUPPORT FOR SENATE BILL 120. I BELIEVE THAT YOU ARE THE SPONSOR OF THIS BILL, AND FOR THAT I WOULD LIKE TO EXPRESS MY SINCERE THANKS.

I HAVE BEEN A STRONG SUPPORTER OF NATUROPATHIC MEDICINE EVER SINCE MY RELATIONSHIP WITH DR. EMILY KANE STARTED. SHE HAS BEEN MY PRIMARY HEALTH CARE PROVIDER FOR OVER 15 YEARS, AND I ABSOLUTELY THINK THE WORLD OF HER.

IT WAS VERY DISHEARTENING SEVERAL YEARS AGO WHEN THERE WAS AN ATTEMPT WITHIN THE STATE LEGISLATURE TO RESTRICT THE KIND OF CARE THAT NATUROPATHIC DOCTORS CAN PROVIDE IN ALASKA. SO TO SEE AN EFFORT ON YOUR BEHALF TO ACTUALLY INCREASE THE SCOPE OF CARE THAT NB'S CAN PROVIDE IS RIGHT ON.

THANK YOU SENATOR GIessel.

Most Sincerely,

Robert Simonton
Juneau

September 26, 2017

Please support SB 120 to extend powers for naturopaths in Alaska. Naturopathic doctors have the required education and licensure that justifies these changes. In my own experience, using more than one naturopath through the years, this form of medical service has been most beneficial. The only negative aspect of naturopathic service has been the restrictions on what they can do. Please vote in favor of SB 120 to improve the lives of Alaskans. Thank you.

Patricia Meritt

620 Eton Blvd

Fairbanks, AK 99709

(907) 474-0841

September 20, 2017

Members of the Senate Labor and Commerce Committee:

My name is Rebecca Nidiffer and I am writing to urge you to support Senate Bill 120 (SB120), which updates the scope of practice for Naturopathic doctors to reflect their education and training.

I am a retired teacher, thus using the state retiree medical insurance. I had a condition that my medical doctors could not diagnose. After going to the Mayo Clinic and getting no answers, I was referred to a naturopathic doctor. She was able to diagnose my condition and after 2 years of treatment I am back to all my normal activities. It has changed my life. However, she cannot prescribe medication for me. So I now have to go to and pay 2 different doctors to get a prescription. It really makes my medical expenses much higher than they would be if I could eliminate that second doctor appointment every time I need a new medication or prescriptions renewed.

There are many other positives related to this bill but this is my personal concern. And it should be a concern to the state, in these lean times, to try cutting expenses.

Thank you for your attention.

Rebecca Nidiffer
tnidiffer@gci.net

TO: Members of the Senate Labor and Commerce Committee
CC: All Legislators

Members of the Senate Labor and Commerce Committee:

My name is **Bill Beistline** and I am writing to urge you to support Senate Bill 120 (SB120), which updates the scope of practice for Naturopathic doctors to reflect their education and training.

Health care costs in Alaska are among the highest in the country. This places a tremendous burden on Alaskan families, creates a drag on the overall economy, and is one of the key drivers for government spending. Although difficult to address completely, SB120 offers one obvious step in the right direction.

The changes proposed in SB120 reflect a scope of practice that is being practiced safely and effectively by naturopathic physicians in many other states around the country. Given our unique health care challenges in Alaska, we should be leading the charge in pursuing policies which provide consumers with more options and greater access to affordable care.

Allowing naturopathic doctors to do what they are trained to do will not only benefit me as a consumer, but will benefit the state overall, by increasing competition and helping to drive down health care costs in Alaska. In addition, since naturopathic doctors focus more on preventative health, this bill, if passed, will help decrease the need for expensive health care for Alaskans well into the future.

Thank you in advance for your support of SB120, and for taking one step toward better health care in our great state.

If you care about Alaskans, and their freedom to have choices in their health care providers, then you will support this bill.

Sincerely,

Bill Beistline



-----Original Message-----

From: Kylara Hollingsworth [mailto:joyoga@alaska.net]
Sent: Saturday, September 02, 2017 6:50 PM
To: Sen. Mia Costello <Sen.Mia.Costello@akleg.gov>; Sen. Shelley Hughes <Senator.Shelley.Hughes@akleg.gov>;
Sen. Kevin Meyer <Sen.Kevin.Meyer@akleg.gov>; Sen. Gary Stevens <Sen.Gary.Stevens@akleg.gov>; Sen. Berta
Gardner <Sen.Berta.Gardner@akleg.gov>; Sen. Cathy Giessel <Sen.Cathy.Giessel@akleg.gov>; Jane Conway
<Jane.Conway@akleg.gov>
Subject: SB120 Please support it

TO: Members of the Senate Labor and Commerce Committee

CC: All Legislators

Members of the Senate Labor and Commerce Committee:

My name is Carla (Kylara) Hollingsworth and I am writing to urge you to support Senate Bill 120 (SB120), which updates the scope of practice for Naturopathic doctors to reflect their education and training.

My family has used Naturopathic medicine and practitioners to a large degree for most of our lives due to the preventative nature of the practice. I have been frustrated over the years to find that the scope of practice for Naturopaths in Alaska is currently less than the training that practitioners receive. For example, when I need a minor in-office surgical procedure, I have to find someone in another office to assist me. This sends me to multiple appointments to fulfill a need which adds to financial cost and requires more time from work and school. etc.

I think it is important to note that Naturopathic doctors practice safely under the whole scope of their training in many other states. But, up to now Alaska's Naturopaths have been held to a more limited scope of practice even than other health care providers in Alaska - with equal or lesser training.

Health care costs in Alaska are among the highest in the country. This places a tremendous burden on Alaskan families, creates a drag on the overall economy, and is one of the key drivers for government spending. Although difficult to address completely, SB120 offers one obvious step in the right direction.

Given our unique health care challenges in Alaska, what can we do to lead the charge in pursuing policies which provide consumers with more options and greater access to affordable care? It is likely that regulating naturopathic doctors appropriately will encourage more young practitioners to move to Alaska and serve Alaskans. You see, naturopathic doctors qualify for Indian Health Service's national loan repayment program aimed to increase access to remote Alaska. However, they are unable to make use of this program due to the limited scope of practice.

Allowing naturopathic doctors to do what they are trained to do will not only benefit my family and me as a health care consumers, but will benefit the state overall, by increasing competition and helping to drive down health care costs in Alaska. In addition, since naturopathic doctors focus more on preventative health, this bill, if passed, will help decrease the need for expensive health care for Alaskans well into the future.

Thank you in advance for your support of SB120, and for taking one step toward better health care in our great state.

Sincerely,

Carla (Kylara) Hollingsworth

Anchorage, AK
907-250-5891

TO: Members of the Senate Labor and Commerce Committee
CC: All Legislators

Members of the Senate Labor and Commerce Committee:

Each of us has our own unique experiences with the medical community because of our life experiences. As we age - we, often by necessity, have more experiences with doctoring and consequently have more medical circumstances to discuss. And some, like me, have become extremely concerned about the direction that the mainstream health practitioners/medical doctors are leading their patients.

The collective health of the nation, Alaska is included, is declining, in part, because of inflexible medical protocols. It is extremely difficult, at times, impossible to find a doctor that is willing to practice anything outside of the AMA published practices. Since each of us is unique and each of us has needs and specific requirements to - get to health and wellness - and then to maintain it, we need medical practitioners who will take on the challenges presented by their patients.

Please, by every means available to you, have Senate Bill 120 pass so the naturopathic physicians can provide care when other medical doctors refuse to take on the medical challenges that do not always have a book solution they are familiar with practicing.

I am a heart attack survivor who has had great difficulty finding a doctor that will even consider some of my health and diet issues. Fortunately, I found a naturopathic doctor who is willing to take the time to discuss my situation and provide real medical expertise where medical doctors refused or simply did not have the fortitude to deviate from protocol to assist where needed.

It is my expectation that the members of the Alaska Senate will prudently look at the need to have knowledgeable, dedicated medical practitioners for all of us who reside in Alaska. And by expanding the role that naturopathic doctors can exercise, this will most certainly expand the assistance available to Alaskan's who have special needs.

Should you want to hear my specific story, you may call my phone number below anytime in the evening or on weekends. I am counting on you to provide that help that you are capable of providing through voting for Senate Bill 120.

Thanks in advance and best wishes,



Ken Hoganson
907-378-5340
ken@hoganson.com
31 August 2017

9-1-17

It has come to my attention that SB 120 will soon be put before the Senate. I strongly encourage you to vote for this bill as it would allow naturopathic physicians to practice medicine to the extent to which they were trained. Currently they are limited in their practice, particularly in being able to prescribe prescription medications or perform minor office surgeries i.e., repairing lacerations. It must be frustrating for them to not be able to function at their full potential, and I personally know it has been frustrating for me.

I much prefer to use naturopathic physicians. They have always been more thorough and more concerned about me as an individual with my own individual needs. Allopathic physicians, although they certainly have their place, often have not been thorough in my own personal medical care. At times, though, I have been forced to go to an allopathic physician after seeing a naturopathic doctor only because the naturopath was not able to perform care in their scope of training. That only drives costs up, not only for me personally, but also for insurance.

I much prefer dealing with health from a preventive vantage, and the naturopathic physicians have always worked with me to get at the root cause of whatever my issues have been giving me ways and means to build my health instead of blanketing the symptoms with a common pharmaceutical. But there has been a time when getting a simple prescription that I needed would have required me to make a separate appointment with an M.D. just so he could write the prescription. That was very frustrating when the naturopathic doctor could have easily done that having had the training in school and having once been able to do that when she practiced in another state prior to moving to Alaska. Now she is gone moving on to a state where she can practice to her full potential. So sad. She was an excellent provider. Our loss.

But even more important than my own personal experiences, they would be able to provide medical care in the villages since they qualify for the Indian Health Services national loan repayment program which is meant to expand healthcare to the villages, yet they are unable to make use of it due to their limited practice.

Please consider voting for SB 120 in order to provide our citizens with the opportunity for better healthcare.

Sincerely,

Vicky Mitchell

Fairbanks

Sept. 11, 2017

Members of the Senate Labor and Commerce Committee:

My name is Calisa Kastning and I am writing to urge you to support Senate Bill 120 (SB120), which updates the scope of practice for Naturopathic doctors to reflect their education and training.

I am writing on behalf of my family of 5! I feel fortunate to have a Naturopath physician as our healthcare provider here in Anchorage. Our Naturopath physician gives us tools on how to stay healthy and therefore we have been able to avoid high costs of urgent care and emergency care visits, therefore lessening the financial burden on our family. I know that Health care costs in Alaska are among the highest in the country. This places a tremendous burden on Alaskan families, creates a drag on the overall economy, and is one of the key drivers for government spending. Although difficult to address completely, SB120 offers one obvious step in the right direction.

The changes proposed in SB120 reflect a scope of practice that is being practiced safely and effectively by naturopathic physicians in many other states around the country. Given our unique health care challenges in Alaska, we should be leading the charge in pursuing policies which provide consumers with more options and greater access to affordable care.

Allowing naturopathic doctors to do what they are trained to do will not only benefit me as a consumer, but will benefit the state overall, by increasing competition and helping to drive down health care costs in Alaska. In addition, since naturopathic doctors focus more on preventative health, this bill, if passed, will help decrease the need for expensive health care for Alaskans well into the future.

Thank you in advance for your support of SB120, and for taking one step toward better health care in our great state.

Sincerely,

Calisa Kastning

August 29, 2017

TO: Members of the Senate Labor and Commerce Committee
CC: All Legislators

Members of the Senate Labor and Commerce Committee:

My name is Joanie Waller and I am writing to urge you to support Senate Bill 120 (SB120), which updates the scope of practice for Naturopathic doctors to reflect their education and training.

I have gone to Naturopathic physicians for most of my life and believe their profession offers the well-rounded personalized health support that is lacking in other more specialized medical practices. I have benefited in many ways from the excellent diagnostic, preventative, and curative methods practiced by these physicians and I look forward to them being allowed to fully do what they do best. Their scope of practice should be allowed to be fully utilized in Alaska, and, with the passage of SB 120, they will be able to practice to the full extent as they do in other states.

Furthermore, keeping Alaskan's healthy can save health care costs, and, especially since our state is so spread out, inviting Naturopaths to practice in remote towns and villages can help do that. Removing the current limitations on the scope of practice can encourage new Naturopathic doctors to come to Alaska rather than deter them.

Thank you in advance for your support of SB120, and for taking one step toward better health care in our great state.

Sincerely,
Joanie Waller
315 Third St
Juneau AK 99801

September 15, 2017

TO: Members of the Senate Labor and Commerce Committee
CC: All Legislators

Members of the Senate Labor and Commerce Committee:

My name is Jessica Caudill and I am writing to urge you to support Senate Bill 120 (SB120), which updates the scope of practice for Naturopathic doctors to reflect their education and training.

Health care costs in Alaska are among the highest in the country. This places a tremendous burden on Alaskan families, creates a drag on the overall economy, and is one of the key drivers for government spending. Although difficult to address completely, SB120 offers one obvious step in the right direction.

The changes proposed in SB120 reflect a scope of practice that is being practiced safely and effectively by naturopathic physicians in many other states around the country. Given our unique health care challenges in Alaska, we should be leading the charge in pursuing policies which provide consumers with more options and greater access to affordable care.

Allowing naturopathic doctors to do what they are trained to do will not only benefit me as a consumer, but will benefit the state overall, by increasing competition and helping to drive down health care costs in Alaska. In addition, since naturopathic doctors focus more on preventative health, this bill, if passed, will help decrease the need for expensive health care for Alaskans well into the future.

Thank you in advance for your support of SB120, and for taking one step toward better health care in our great state.

Sincerely,

Jessica Caudill

August 31, 2017

TO: Members of the Senate Labor and Commerce Committee

CC: All Legislators

Members of the Senate Labor and Commerce Committee:

My name is Tinessa Fields and I am writing to urge you to support Senate Bill 120 (SB120), which updates the scope of practice for Naturopathic doctors to reflect their education and training.

Health care costs in Alaska are among the highest in the country. This places a tremendous burden on Alaskan families, creates a drag on the overall economy, and is one of the key drivers for government spending. Although difficult to address completely, SB120 offers one obvious step in the right direction.

The changes proposed in SB120 reflect a scope of practice that is being practiced safely and effectively by naturopathic physicians in many other states around the country. Given our unique health care challenges in Alaska, we should be leading the charge in pursuing policies which provide consumers with more options and greater access to affordable care.

Allowing naturopathic doctors to do what they are trained to do will not only benefit me as a consumer, but will benefit the state overall, by increasing competition and helping to drive down health care costs in Alaska. In addition, since naturopathic doctors focus more on preventative health, this bill, if passed, will help decrease the need for expensive health care for Alaskans well into the future.

Thank you in advance for your support of SB120, and for taking one step toward better health care in our great state.

Sincerely,

Tinessa N Fields

Sept. 10, 2017

TO: Members of the Senate Labor and Commerce Committee

CC: All Legislators

Members of the Senate Labor and Commerce Committee:

My name is **Linda Hill** and I am writing to urge you to support Senate Bill 120 (SB120), which updates the scope of practice for Naturopathic doctors to reflect their education and training.

Health care costs in Alaska are among the highest in the country. This places a tremendous burden on Alaskan families, creates a drag on the overall economy, and is one of the key drivers for government spending. Although difficult to address completely, SB120 offers one obvious step in the right direction.

The changes proposed in SB120 reflect a scope of practice that is being practiced safely and effectively by naturopathic physicians in many other states around the country. Given our unique health care challenges in Alaska, we should be leading the charge in pursuing policies which provide consumers with more options and greater access to affordable care.

Allowing naturopathic doctors to do what they are trained to do will not only benefit me as a consumer, but will benefit the state overall, by increasing competition and helping to drive down health care costs in Alaska. In addition, since naturopathic doctors focus more on preventative health, this bill, if passed, will help decrease the need for expensive health care for Alaskans well into the future.

Thank you in advance for your support of SB120, and for taking one step toward better health care in our great state.

Sincerely,

Linda Hill

-----Original Message-----

From: samndeb@acsalaska.net [mailto:samndeb@acsalaska.net]
Sent: Monday, September 04, 2017 12:59 PM
To: Sen. Mia Costello <Sen.Mia.Costello@akleg.gov>; Sen. Shelley Hughes <Senator.Shelley.Hughes@akleg.gov>; Sen. Kevin Meyer <Sen.Kevin.Meyer@akleg.gov>; Sen. Gary Stevens <Sen.Gary.Stevens@akleg.gov>; Sen. Berta Gardner <Sen.Berta.Gardner@akleg.gov>; Sen. Cathy Giessel <Sen.Cathy.Giessel@akleg.gov>; Jane Conway <Jane.Conway@akleg.gov>; Aknaturopaths@gmail.com
Subject: Support Senate Bill 120

Please support Senate Bill 120 allowing Naturopaths in Alaska to practice to the fullest extent of their training. Prevention based care saves consumers and insurers and the state money. Allowing full extent of practice will improve health care access for all Alaskans by increasing the number of primary providers.

Please support SB 120 and wellness in Alaska.
Thank you for your consideration.

Debera Cokeley
2194 Cascade St.
Juneau, AK 99801
907-789-3485

Sept. 6, 2017

TO: Members of the Senate Labor and Commerce Committee

CC: All Legislators

Members of the Senate Labor and Commerce Committee:

My name is Valerie DeLaune, LAc, and I am writing to urge you to support Senate Bill 120 (SB120), which updates the scope of practice for Naturopathic doctors to reflect their education and training.

Health care costs in Alaska are among the highest in the country. This places a tremendous burden on Alaskan families, creates a drag on the overall economy, and is one of the key drivers for government spending. Although difficult to address completely, SB120 offers one obvious step in the right direction.

The changes proposed in SB120 reflect a scope of practice that is being practiced safely and effectively by naturopathic physicians in many other states around the country. Given our unique health care challenges in Alaska, we should be leading the charge in pursuing policies which provide consumers with more options and greater access to affordable care.

Allowing naturopathic doctors to do what they are trained to do will not only benefit me as a consumer, but will benefit the state overall, by increasing competition and helping to drive down health care costs in Alaska. In addition, since naturopathic doctors focus more on preventative health, this bill, if passed, will help decrease the need for expensive health care for Alaskans well into the future.

Thank you in advance for your support of SB120, and for taking one step toward better health care in our great state.

Sincerely,

Valerie DeLaune, LAc

Valerie DeLaune, LAc (Licensed Acupuncturist)
Clinic: Alaskan Natural Care Clinic (907) 435-7060

Hello Senators,

I am writing urging you to support Senate Bill 120 updating the regulation of Naturopathic Doctors in Alaska. I am an ND practicing in Fairbanks, and this bill would allow me to better serve my patients and use the full scope of my medical training. I attended UAF for my undergraduate degree then went on to complete the 4 year doctorate in naturopathic medicine with a one year clinical residency. With the current limitations of our scope I have to refer all of my patients that require any prescription medications, which is a waste of time and money for the people I serve. We are trained as primary care physicians, and our scope of practice in other states reflects this. Our training meets or exceeds that of other primary care providers currently licensed in AK (MD's, DO's, NP's, PA's). The regulations in AK are outdated and severely limit how we can practice. Naturopathic doctors are uniquely positioned to address the causes of chronic disease that are driving up healthcare costs nationwide. Our training emphasizes lifestyle changes as a first line therapy when appropriate, which are an affordable, sustainable way to address chronic illness.

I was born and raised in Fairbanks, and would love to continue to raise my family and serve my patients here in this community. With the current state of regulations for naturopathic doctors in AK my husband and I have strongly considered moving out of state where I can have a less limited practice. I urge you to consider updating our scope of practice so I can offer these services in Alaska.

Thank you for your time,

Suzette Mailloux ND

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Suzette Mailloux ND
Holistic Medical Clinic
222 Front Street
Fairbanks, AK 99701
907-451-7100 Fax 907-451-7168

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I am a voting Alaskan and want to urge you to consider addressing the health needs of Alaskans and of naturopathic doctors who serve us. Please reform naturopathic health care in Alaska and make Senate Bill 120 law.

Alaskans suffer from some of the highest health care costs in the nation and many areas--including Fairbanks--are underserved. Naturopaths are valued practitioners in their communities working to bridge these issues for healthy Alaskans. The education and training naturopaths receive qualifies them for effective care well beyond the scope of practice Alaska's licensing for naturopathic doctors allows. In other words, current law is limiting the efficacy of naturopaths in underserved areas where their care is needed and valued!

SB120 redefines the scope of practice for naturopathic doctors in Alaska to reflect their education and training. Among other things, the bill allow licensed practitioners to perform minor office procedures (surgeries) and issue vitamins, minerals and non-controlled substance prescription medications. Allowing naturopathic doctors to practice within the full scope of their training will immediately increase the number of primary care providers in Alaska. Please do your part by supporting SB 120 to improve health care access, increase competition in the market and help drive down costs.

Thank you for considering constituent priorities.

Jennifer Reed

1389 Richard Berry Dr

Fairbanks, AK 99709

9-3-17

Dear Members of the Senate Labor and Commerce Committee,

My name is Kate Finn, an R.N./ Nurse Practitioner in Alaska since January of 1977. I am writing to urge you to support Senate Bill 120 (SB120). This bill updates the scope of practice for Naturopathic Doctors, reflecting more closely their education and training!

I am an eclectic consumer of health care, using M.D.'s, Naturopaths, Chiropractors, Chinese Medicine Practitioners and Massage Therapists. Each of these trained and skilled Health Care Providers is a specialist in their own field. In some cases their therapies overlap, and in many cases their therapeutic focus is quite different, but can achieve the same ends—the healing of the “patient”. Each person, and illness may require the best of more than one option to achieve the healing end-point. Rarely do I use only one modality to approach an illness issue for myself. AND I believe each person should have the choice of as many healing modalities as possible to support and remedy their bodies!

Allowing Naturopathic Doctors to practice their full scope of training, will increase the number of primary care providers in this state, improving access to care, and helping to lower medical care costs through increased competition. A Naturopaths focus tends to be on prevention, so over time this type of care, we know, saves money for consumers, and the state. Naturopaths Doctors practice safely under their full scope of training in many other states—WHY not here??

I urge you to pass this legislation!!

Senator Stevens, if you are not going to support this , I would like you to tell me why.

Grateful for all your work!

Kate Finn

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Chris Laing <chrislain@gmail.com>

Date: Wed, Aug 30, 2017 at 12:33 PM

Subject: support for Senate Bill 120 (SB 120)

To: Senator.Mia.Costello@akleg.gov, Senator.Shelley.Hughes@akleg.gov, Senator.Kevin.Meyer@akleg.gov, Senator.Gary.Stevens@akleg.gov, Senator.Berta.Gardner@akleg.gov, Senator.Cathy.Giessel@akleg.gov

TO: Members of the Senate Labor and Commerce Committee

CC: All Legislators

FROM: Chris Laing

Members of the Senate Labor and Commerce Committee:

I am writing to urge you to support Senate Bill 120 (SB120), which updates the scope of practice for Naturopathic doctors to reflect their education and training. I have been a recipient of Naturopathic care both here in Alaska and in the State of Oregon. I have always felt safe and professionally treated for the causes as well as symptoms of my health concerns with an eye toward prevention.

I have a family member who became a Naturopathic Physician at the same time as her then partner became an Allopathic General Practitioner. I was able to observe first hand the equal rigor of their training. I have personally beneffted from both forms of practice. I believe we need both approaches in order to address the increasing demand for health care in this state.

Health care costs in Alaska are among the highest in the country. This places a tremendous burden on Alaskan families, creates a drag on the overall economy, and is one of the key drivers for government spending. Although difficult to address completely, SB120 offers one obvious step in the right direction.

The changes proposed in SB120 reflect a scope of practice that is being practiced safely and effectively by naturopathic physicians in Oregon as well as many other states around the country. Given our unique health care challenges in Alaska, we should be leading the charge in pursuing policies which provide consumers with more options and greater access to affordable care.

Allowing naturopathic doctors to do what they are trained to do will not only benefit me as a consumer, but will benefit the state overall, by increasing competition and helping to drive down health care costs in Alaska. In addition, since naturopathic doctors focus more on preventative health, this bill, if passed, will help decrease the need for expensive health care for Alaskans well into the future.

Thank you in advance for your support of SB120, and for taking one step toward better health care in our great state.

Sincerely,

Chris Laing

Sept. 11, 2017

TO: Members of the Senate Labor and Commerce Committee

CC: All Legislators

Members of the Senate Labor and Commerce Committee:

My name is Jonathan Miller. I'm a licensed professional counselor in Fairbanks, Alaska, and I am writing to urge you to support Senate Bill 120 (SB120), which updates the scope of practice for Naturopathic doctors.

I believe the changes proposed in SB120 reflect a scope of practice that is being practiced safely and effectively by naturopathic physicians in many other states around the country. Given our unique health care challenges in Alaska, we should be leading the charge in pursuing policies which provide consumers with more options and greater access to affordable care.

Allowing naturopathic doctors to do what they are trained to do will not only benefit my clients who desperately need more access to quality physicians here in Fairbanks, but also benefit the state overall, by increasing competition and helping to drive down health care costs in Alaska. In addition, since naturopathic doctors focus more on preventative health, this bill, if passed, will help decrease the need for expensive health care for Alaskans well into the future.

Thank you in advance for your support of SB120, and for taking one step toward better health care in our great state.

Sincerely,

Jonathan Miller, LPC

Turning Point Counseling Services

Fairbanks, Alaska

August 29, 2017

TO: Members of the Senate Labor and Commerce Committee
CC: All Legislators

Members of the Senate Labor and Commerce Committee:

My name is Keri Eggleston and I am writing to urge you to support Senate Bill 120 (SB120), which updates the scope of practice for Naturopathic doctors to reflect their education and training.

Health care costs in Alaska are among the highest in the country. This places a tremendous burden on Alaskan families, creates a drag on the overall economy, and is one of the key drivers for government spending. Although difficult to address completely, SB120 offers one obvious step in the right direction.

The changes proposed in SB120 reflect a scope of practice that is being practiced safely and effectively by naturopathic physicians in many other states around the country. Given our unique health care challenges in Alaska, we should be leading the charge in pursuing policies which provide consumers with more options and greater access to affordable care.

Allowing naturopathic doctors to do what they are trained to do will not only benefit me as a consumer, but will benefit the state overall, by increasing competition and helping to drive down health care costs in Alaska. In addition, since naturopathic doctors focus more on preventative health, this bill, if passed, will help decrease the need for expensive health care for Alaskans well into the future.

Thank you in advance for your support of SB120, and for taking one step toward better health care in our great state.

Sincerely,

Keri Eggleston
1728 Glacier Ave.
Juneau, AK 99801

September 13, 2017

To: Members of the Senate Labor and Commerce Committee

From: Alex Steelsmith

Dear Members of the Senate Labor and Commerce Committee:

I'm writing to ask you to please support Senate Bill 120 (SB120), which updates the scope of practice for Naturopathic doctors to reflect their education and training.

Health care costs in Alaska are among the highest in the country. This places a tremendous burden on Alaskan families, creates a drag on the overall economy, and is one of the key drivers for government spending. Although difficult to address completely, SB120 offers one obvious step in the right direction.

The changes proposed in SB120 reflect a scope of practice that is being practiced safely and effectively by naturopathic physicians in many other states around the country. Given our unique health care challenges in Alaska, we should be leading the charge in pursuing policies which provide consumers with more options and greater access to affordable care.

Allowing naturopathic doctors to do what they are trained to do will not only benefit consumers, but will benefit the state overall, by increasing competition and helping to drive down health care costs in Alaska. In addition, since naturopathic doctors focus more on preventative health, this bill, if passed, will help decrease the need for expensive health care for Alaskans well into the future.

Thank you in advance for your support of SB120, and for taking one step toward better health care in our great state.

Sincerely,
Alex Steelsmith

1-15-18

TO: Members of the Senate Labor and Commerce Committee

CC: All Legislators

Members of the Senate Labor and Commerce Committee:

My name is Kasey Holland and I am writing to urge you to support Senate Bill 120 (SB120), which updates the scope of practice for Naturopathic doctors to reflect their education and training.

Naturopathic medicine is one of the best tools for utilizing preventative medicine to not only decrease healthcare costs, but restore and change health in communities. As a new naturopathic doctor I have seen success with patients ranging from diabetic care to mental health. Naturopathic physicians are skilled not only in natural therapies, but also pharmaceuticals. They can direct appropriate use of them, while preventing chronic disease.

Health care costs in Alaska are among the highest in the country. This places a tremendous burden on Alaskan families, creates a drag on the overall economy, and is one of the key drivers for government spending. Although difficult to address completely, SB120 offers one obvious step in the right direction.

The changes proposed in SB120 reflect a scope of practice that is being practiced safely and effectively by naturopathic physicians in many other states around the country. Given the unique health care challenges in Alaska, we should be leading the charge in pursuing policies which provide consumers with more options and greater access to affordable care.

Allowing naturopathic doctors to do what they are trained to do will not only benefit consumers, but will benefit the state overall, by increasing competition and helping to drive down health care costs in Alaska. In addition, since naturopathic doctors focus more on preventative health, this bill, if passed, will help decrease the need for expensive health care for Alaskans well into the future.

Thank you in advance for your support of SB120, and for taking one step toward better health care in Alaska.

In good health,

Kasey Holland, ND

678-736-6000

KHolland@progressivemedicalcenter.com



4646 N. Shallowford Rd., Atlanta, GA 30338

This is Your Life... Live it Well!

1-10-18

Members of the Senate Labor and Commerce Committee:

My name is Vanessa Wiley and I am writing to urge you to support Senate Bill 120 (SB120), which updates the scope of practice for Naturopathic doctors to reflect their education and training.

Health care costs in Alaska are among the highest in the country. This places a tremendous burden on Alaskan families, creates a drag on the overall economy, and is one of the key drivers for government spending. Although difficult to address completely, SB120 offers one obvious step in the right direction.

The changes proposed in SB120 reflect a scope of practice that is being practiced safely and effectively by naturopathic physicians in many other states around the country. Given our unique health care challenges in Alaska, we should be leading the charge in pursuing policies which provide consumers with more options and greater access to affordable care.

Allowing naturopathic doctors to do what they are trained to do will not only benefit me as a consumer, but will benefit the state overall, by increasing competition and helping to drive down health care costs in Alaska. In addition, since naturopathic doctors focus more on preventative health, this bill, if passed, will help decrease the need for expensive health care for Alaskans well into the future.

Thank you in advance for your support of SB120, and for taking one step toward better health care in our great state.

Vanessa

Vanessa Wiley

Editorial Coordinator

NDNR / NaturalPath

Office: (888) 627-8677

Fax: 480.275.5089

www.ndnr.com | www.thenatpath.com

1-9-18

TO: Members of the Senate Labor and Commerce Committee

CC: All Legislators

Members of the Senate Labor and Commerce Committee:

My name is Kasey Holland and I am writing to urge you to support Senate Bill 120 (SB120), which updates the scope of practice for Naturopathic doctors to reflect their education and training.

Naturopathic medicine is one of the best tools for utilizing preventative medicine to not only decrease healthcare costs, but restore and change health in communities. As a new naturopathic doctor I have seen success with patients ranging from diabetic care to mental health. Naturopathic physicians are skilled not only in natural therapies, but also pharmaceuticals. They can direct appropriate use of them, while preventing chronic disease.

Health care costs in Alaska are among the highest in the country. This places a tremendous burden on Alaskan families, creates a drag on the overall economy, and is one of the key drivers for government spending. Although difficult to address completely, SB120 offers one obvious step in the right direction.

The changes proposed in SB120 reflect a scope of practice that is being practiced safely and effectively by naturopathic physicians in many other states around the country. Given the unique health care challenges in Alaska, we should be leading the charge in pursuing policies which provide consumers with more options and greater access to affordable care.

Allowing naturopathic doctors to do what they are trained to do will not only benefit consumers, but will benefit the state overall, by increasing competition and helping to drive down health care costs in Alaska. In addition, since naturopathic doctors focus more on preventative health, this bill, if passed, will help decrease the need for expensive health care for Alaskans well into the future.

Thank you in advance for your support of SB120, and for taking one step toward better health care in Alaska.

In good health,

Kasey Holland, ND

406-570-8104

docndholland@gmail.com

Dear Ms. Conway:

My name is Rebecca Magowan and I am writing to urge you to support Senate Bill 120 (SB120), which updates the scope of practice for Naturopathic doctors to reflect their education and training.

Health care costs in Alaska are among the highest in the country. This places a tremendous burden on Alaskan families, creates a drag on the overall economy and is one of the key drivers for government spending. Although difficult to address completely, SB120 offers one obvious step in the right direction.

The changes proposed in SB120 reflect a scope of practice that is being practiced safely and effectively by naturopathic physicians in many other states around the country. Given our unique health care challenges in Alaska, we should be leading the charge in pursuing policies which provide consumers with more options and greater access to affordable care.

Allowing naturopathic doctors to do what they are trained to do will not only benefit me as a consumer, but will benefit the state overall, by increasing competition and helping to drive down health care costs in Alaska. In addition, since naturopathic doctors focus more on preventative health, this bill, if passed, will help decrease the need for expensive health care for Alaskans well into the future.

Thank you in advance for your support of SB120 and for taking one step toward better health care in our great state.

Sincerely,

Rebecca Magowan
P.O. Box 81611
Fairbanks, AK 99708

1-8-18

To the Senate:

I'm writing to support SB120 to allow Naturopathic doctors to be able to write prescriptions and do procedures that they have been trained to do in the course of getting their medical degree.

Thanks,

Lance Roberts

Fairbanks, AK

I am a voting Alaskan and want to urge you to consider addressing the health needs of Alaskans and of naturopathic doctors who serve us. Please reform naturopathic health care in Alaska and make Senate Bill 120 law.

Alaskans suffer from some of the highest health care costs in the nation and many areas--including Fairbanks--are underserved. Naturopaths are valued practitioners in their communities working to bridge these issues for healthy Alaskans. The education and training naturopaths receive qualifies them for effective care well beyond the scope of practice Alaska's licensing for naturopathic doctors allows. In other words, current law is limiting the efficacy of naturopaths in underserved areas where their care is needed and valued!

SB120 redefines the scope of practice for naturopathic doctors in Alaska to reflect their education and training. Among other things, the bill allow licensed practitioners to perform minor office procedures (surgeries) and issue vitamins, minerals and non-controlled substance prescription medications. Allowing naturopathic doctors to practice within the full scope of their training will immediately increase the number of primary care providers in Alaska. Please do your part by supporting SB 120 to improve health care access, increase competition in the market and help drive down costs.

Thank you for considering constituent priorities.

Jennifer Reed

1389 Richard Berry Dr

Fairbanks, AK 99709

1-5-18

TO: Members of the Senate Labor and Commerce Committee
CC: All Legislators

Members of the Senate Labor and Commerce Committee:

My name is Jennifer Peters and I am writing to urge you to support Senate Bill 120 (SB120), which updates the scope of practice for Naturopathic doctors to reflect their education and training.

The changes proposed in SB120 reflect a scope of practice that is being practiced safely and effectively by naturopathic physicians in many other states around the country. This bill would provide consumers with more options and greater access to affordable care.

Allowing naturopathic doctors to do what they are trained to do will benefit me, my family, and others as consumers. Since naturopathic doctors focus more on preventative health, this bill, if passed, will help decrease the need for expensive health care for Alaskans.

Thank you in advance for your support of SB120, and for taking one step toward better health care in Alaska.

Jennifer Peters

1-4-18

TO: Members of the Senate Labor and Commerce Committee

CC: All Legislators

Members of the Senate Labor and Commerce Committee:

My name is Shelly Merrill and I am writing to urge you to support Senate Bill 120 (SB120), which updates the scope of practice for Naturopathic doctors to reflect their education and training.

Health care costs in Alaska are among the highest in the country. This places a tremendous burden on Alaskan families, creates a drag on the overall economy, and is one of the key drivers for government spending. Although difficult to address completely, SB120 offers one obvious step in the right direction.

The changes proposed in SB120 reflect a scope of practice that is being practiced safely and effectively by naturopathic physicians in many other states around the country. Given our unique health care challenges in Alaska, we should be leading the charge in pursuing policies which provide consumers with more options and greater access to affordable care.

Allowing naturopathic doctors to do what they are trained to do will not only benefit me as a consumer, but will benefit the state overall, by increasing competition and helping to drive down health care costs in Alaska. In addition, since naturopathic doctors focus more on preventative health, this bill, if passed, will help decrease the need for expensive health care for Alaskans well into the future.

Thank you in advance for your support of SB120, and for taking one step toward better health care in our great state.

Sincerely,

Shelly Merrill

12-13-17

Dear Members of the Senate Labor and Commerce Committee:

I am writing to ask for your support of Senate Bill 120. I am appealing to you as an Anchorage resident and as a practicing naturopathic doctor. SB 120 would allow naturopathic doctors to practice to the full extent of our training and provide patients with access to safe and effective medicine. Our focus on disease prevention has been proven to cut healthcare costs dramatically.

Over the 16 years I have practiced medicine in Anchorage, I have frequently been faced with referring a patient elsewhere, when I could have readily provided the necessary treatment if our scope were broader.

The current law does not allow naturopathic doctors to provide thorough care for our patients and leads to unnecessary and costly referrals. Our training exceeds that of certain other health care providers, yet in Alaska, we have a much more limited scope of practice.

Alaska is facing a shortage in primary care providers and we are well prepared to fill that role.

I urge you to support SB 120 and allow Alaskans to have better access to comprehensive health care. Thank you for your support.

Sincerely,

Birgit Lenger, ND

Member Manager, Natural Health Center

3330 Eagle St, Anchorage, AK 99503

11-22-17

TO: Members of the Senate Labor and Commerce Committee

CC: All Legislators

Members of the Senate Labor and Commerce Committee:

My name is Presley Coryell and I am writing to urge you to support Senate Bill 120 (SB120), which updates the scope of practice for Naturopathic doctors to reflect their education and training.

I am currently a senior at UAF, and will get my BS in Biological Science and physiology this upcoming spring. As an Alaska resident, I recognize the need for improved health care for our great state. I intend on going to med school after I graduate, either to become an MD or an ND. I strongly believe in the goals and beliefs emphasized in Naturopathic medicine and would love to further incorporate them into the Alaskan health care system.

In order to practice the most beneficial and efficient medicine, doctors must not be limited from utilizing such vital medical tools such as prescription drugs. Although the focus of Naturopathy emphasizes the use of homeopathic and preventative medicine, intertwining the benefits of both naturopathic and pharmaceutical medicines is the most effective method of creating a more healthy Alaska.

Health care costs in Alaska are among the highest in the country. This places a tremendous burden on Alaskan families, creates a drag on the overall economy, and is one of the key drivers for government spending. Although difficult to address completely, SB120 offers one obvious step in the right direction.

The changes proposed in SB120 reflect a scope of practice that is being practiced safely and effectively by naturopathic physicians in many other states around the country. Given our unique health care challenges in Alaska, we should be leading the charge in pursuing policies which provide consumers with more options and greater access to affordable care.

Allowing naturopathic doctors to do what they are trained to do will not only benefit me as a consumer, but will benefit the state overall, by increasing competition and helping to drive down health care costs in Alaska. In addition, since naturopathic doctors focus more on preventative health, this bill, if passed, will help decrease the need for expensive health care for Alaskans well into the future.

Thank you in advance for your support of SB120, and for taking one step toward better health care in our great state.

Best,

Presley Coryell

Future ND

TO: Members of the Senate Labor and Commerce Committee
CC: All Legislators

Members of the Senate Labor and Commerce Committee:

My name is Maigin Stone and I am writing to urge you to support Senate Bill 120 (SB120), which updates the scope of practice for Naturopathic doctors to reflect their education and training.

Health care costs in Alaska are among the highest in the country. This places a tremendous burden on Alaskan families, creates a drag on the overall economy, and is one of the key drivers for government spending. Although difficult to address completely, SB120 offers one obvious step in the right direction.

The changes proposed in SB120 reflect a scope of practice that is being practiced safely and effectively by naturopathic physicians in many other states around the country. Given our unique health care challenges in Alaska, we should be leading the charge in pursuing policies which provide consumers with more options and greater access to affordable care.

Allowing naturopathic doctors to do what they are trained to do will not only benefit me as a consumer, but will benefit the state overall, by increasing competition and helping to drive down health care costs in Alaska. In addition, since naturopathic doctors focus more on preventative health, this bill, if passed, will help decrease the need for expensive health care for Alaskans well into the future.

Thank you in advance for your support of SB120, and for taking one step toward better health care in our great state.

Sincerely,

Maigin Stone

October 12, 2017

Members of the Senate Labor and Commerce Committee:

My name is Linda Heck and I am writing to urge you to support Senate Bill 120 (SB120), which updates the scope of practice for Naturopathic doctors to reflect their education and training.

As a lifelong Alaskan nearing retirement age, I am personally burdened by Alaska's high health care costs and limited number medical provider. I support SB120 because it is a step in the right direction to help alleviate these burdens for myself and all Alaskans.

The changes proposed in SB120 reflect a scope of practice that is being practiced safely and effectively by naturopathic physicians in many other states around the country. Given our unique health care challenges in Alaska, we should be leading the charge in pursuing policies which provide consumers with more options and greater access to affordable care.

Allowing naturopathic doctors to do what they are trained to do will not only benefit me as a consumer, but will benefit the state overall, by increasing competition and helping to drive down health care costs in Alaska. In addition, since naturopathic doctors focus more on preventative health, this bill, if passed, will help decrease the need for expensive health care for Alaskans well into the future.

Thank you in advance for your support of SB120 and improved health care in our great state.

Sincerely,
Linda Heck

TO: Members of the Senate Labor and Commerce Committee
CC: All Legislators

Members of the Senate Labor and Commerce Committee:

My name is Robin Wood and I am writing to urge you to support Senate Bill 120 (SB120), which updates the scope of practice for Naturopathic doctors to reflect their education and training.

Health care costs in Alaska are among the highest in the country. This places a tremendous burden on Alaskan families, creates a drag on the overall economy, and is one of the key drivers for government spending. Although difficult to address completely, SB120 offers one obvious step in the right direction.

The changes proposed in SB120 reflect a scope of practice that is being practiced safely and effectively by naturopathic physicians in many other states around the country. Given our unique health care challenges in Alaska, we should be leading the charge in pursuing policies which provide consumers with more options and greater access to affordable care.

Allowing naturopathic doctors to do what they are trained to do will not only benefit me as a consumer, but will benefit the state overall, by increasing competition and helping to drive down health care costs in Alaska. In addition, since naturopathic doctors focus more on preventative health, this bill, if passed, will help decrease the need for expensive health care for Alaskans well into the future.

Thank you in advance for your support of SB120, and for taking one step toward better health care in our great state.

Sincerely,

Robin Wood

10-07-17

TO: Members of the Senate Labor and Commerce Committee

CC: All Legislators

Members of the Senate Labor and Commerce Committee:

My name is Sharon Simko and I am writing to urge you to support Senate Bill 120 (SB120), which updates the scope of practice for Naturopathic doctors to reflect their education and training.

Health care costs in Alaska are among the highest in the country. This places a tremendous burden on Alaskan families, creates a drag on the overall economy, and is one of the key drivers for government spending. Although difficult to address completely, SB120 offers one obvious step in the right direction.

The changes proposed in SB120 reflect a scope of practice that is being practiced safely and effectively by naturopathic physicians in many other states around the country. Given our unique health care challenges in Alaska, we should be leading the charge in pursuing policies

which provide consumers with options and greater access to affordable care.

Allowing naturopathic doctors to do what they are trained to do will not only benefit me as a consumer, but will benefit the state overall, by increasing competition and helping to drive down

health care costs in Alaska. In addition, since naturopathic doctors focus more on preventative health, this bill, if passed, will help decrease the need for expensive health care for Alaskans well into the future.

Thank you in advance for your support of SBI 20, and for taking one step toward better health care in our great state.

Sincerely with Thanks,

Sharon Simko

Batch 4

1-22-18

TO: Members of the Senate Labor and Commerce Committee

CC: All Legislators

Dear Senators,

I am a patient of Naturopathic Medicine in Alaska and I support scope expansion through SB 120.

The scope of practice for licensed Naturopathic doctors in Alaska does not reflect their full education and training and with SB120 the scope of practice for these naturopathic doctors is redefined allowing licensed practitioners to perform minor office procedures (surgeries), and issue vitamins, minerals and non-controlled substance prescription medications.

This will increase the number of primary care providers in Alaska, improving healthcare access and increasing the competition to help drive costs down. Since, with my experience, Naturopathic doctors' focus on prevention this will help decrease the utilization of health care and save money for consumers, insurers and the state.

I have utilized Naturopathic doctors in conjunction with my primary care. This teamwork did not come easy. I had to find a provider that would work with my Naturopathic to provide medications that I needed that my Naturopathic could not prescribe in the state of Alaska. However, if we were in Oregon for example, my Naturopathic could prescribe directly to me, instead of me having to see another provider wasting my time and money.

Speaking of time, when I go to see my provider, I spend more time in the waiting area and checking in than I do seeing the provider. When I see my Naturopathic doctor, we spend at least an hour discussing all parts of my wellness so she can get a whole picture of me. This patient centered care is incredibly important and needed for proper diagnosing and planning of action.

I have benefited from Naturopathic care. For over five years I have had my thyroid levels checked with "normal" results with my primary care but I knew there was more to the story. When I saw my Naturopathic doctor and she listened to my symptoms and feelings she then ordered different tests to confirm that I had Hashimoto's disease. This had not even been brought up by my primary care provider that this was even a possibility.

For over two years now I have been working with both my primary care and Naturopathic doctor. Instead of working with both I would rather work with just one provider, unless a second opinion is needed.

I support SB120 as I know that Alaska will be a better place to live with its expansion.

Renna Hoener

523 Craig Ave

Fairbanks, AK 99701

1-25-18

To: Members of the Senate Labor and Commerce Committee
CC: All Legislators

Members of the Senate Labor and Commerce Committee:

My name is Jodi Oakes and I urge you to support Senate Bill 120 (SB120) I believe in the validity of naturopathic doctors and think this bill will allow them to practice what they are trained to do. Naturopathic doctors focus more on preventative care, which I fully support, and I believe if this bill is passed will help to lower medical bills for Alaskans and make good health and healthcare more common here.

Thank you,
Jodi Oakes

1-29-18

Dear Senator and Member of Senate Labor & Commerce Committee:

I, Donna Victors, am writing you to urge you to support Senate Bill 120 (SB120) which updates the scope of practice for Naturopathic doctors to reflect their education and training.

Health care costs in Alaska are among the highest in the nation, which causes a burden on Alaskan families as well as too much government spending. Although difficult to address completely, SB120 offers one obvious step in the right direction.

The changes proposed in SB120 reflect a scope of practice that is being practiced safely and effectively by naturopathic physicians in many other states around the country. Given our unique health care challenges in Alaska, we should be leading the charge in pursuing policies which provide consumers with more options and greater access to affordable care.

Allowing naturopathic doctors to do what they are trained to do will not only benefit me as a consumer, but will benefit the state overall by increasing competition and helping to drive down health care costs in Alaska. In addition, since naturopathic doctors focus more on PREVENTATIVE health, this bill, if passed, will help DECREASE the need for expensive health care for Alaskans well into the future. Naturopaths treat the CAUSE instead of SYMPTOMS. Not all of us want DRUGS.

Thank you for your support of SB120, and for taking one step toward better health care in our great state.

Sincerely,

Donna Victors, 7449 S Babcock Blvd, Wasilla, AK 99623

1-30-18

TO: Members of the Senate Labor and Commerce Committee

CC: All Legislators

Members of the Senate Labor and Commerce Committee:

I am reaching out to urge you to support Senate Bill 120 (SB120), which updates the scope of practice for Naturopathic doctors to reflect their education and training.

Health care costs in Alaska are among the highest in the country. This places a tremendous burden on Alaskan families, creates a drag on the overall economy, and is one of the key drivers for government spending. Although difficult to address completely, SB120 offers one obvious step in the right direction.

The changes proposed in SB120 reflect a scope of practice that is being practiced safely and effectively by naturopathic physicians in many other states around the country. Given our unique health care challenges in Alaska, we should be leading the charge in pursuing policies which provide consumers with more options and greater access to affordable care.

Allowing naturopathic doctors to do what they are trained to do will not only benefit me as a consumer, but will benefit the state overall, by increasing competition and helping to drive down health care costs in Alaska. In addition, since naturopathic doctors focus more on preventative health, this bill, if passed, will help decrease the need for expensive health care for Alaskans well into the future.

Thank you in advance for your support of SB120, and for taking one step toward better health care in our great state.

Best, Polina Titarenko

1-31-18

This is a message in support of SB120, which I strongly support, and hope that you will recognize it's merits, also. The naturopaths here in Alaska, as well as nationwide, provide valuable health services, and should be allowed to practice commensurate with their education and expertise. They focus on disease prevention, rather than treatment after the fact, a much less costly plan in terms of time lost from work and financial outlay. Our healthcare costs are higher than elsewhere in the country, and while we're free to move to other states, as a lifelong Alaskan, I prefer to remain here.

Please follow this bill as it progresses for consideration, and vote to affirm it.
Thank you for your time, attention, and hard work on our behalf.

Yours truly,
Carol A. Anderson
P.O. Box 7077
Nikiski, AK 99635

1-31-18

From: Katherine Huber [<mailto:katherinewhuber@gmail.com>]
Sent: Wednesday, January 31, 2018 1:18 PM
To: Sen. Cathy Giessel <Sen.Cathy.Giessel@akleg.gov>
Subject: SB 120

Dear Senator Giessel,

My name is Kate Huber from Valdez, AK and I am writing to urge you to support Senate Bill 120 (SB120), which updates the scope of practice for Naturopathic doctors to reflect their education and training.

As every Alaskan is keenly aware, healthcare costs in our state are among the highest in the country. This places a tremendous burden on Alaskan families, creates a drag on the overall economy, and is one of the key drivers for government spending. Although difficult to address completely, SB120 offers one obvious step in the right direction and will impact me directly.

I have chosen a naturopathic doctor as my primary healthcare provider since moving to the state in 2009. I have been extremely pleased with this option in our state and would benefit from my primary care provider having the ability to write prescriptions as a part of my care. Recently, I started experiencing asthma symptoms and brought this up with my doctor at my recent appointment. Because my naturopathic doctor was unable to write me a prescription for an emergency inhaler for these symptoms, I am now forced to go to a different clinic simply for this prescription. This is inconvenient and expensive and demonstrates how SB120 would help make our state healthcare system more efficient.

I have experienced a level of healthcare with my naturopathic doctor in Alaska that I haven't experienced in any other healthcare setting. The amount of time that my doctor devotes to me and my preventative care is unmatched in any other setting. Like most Alaskans, regardless of political persuasion, I appreciate the freedom of choice in my healthcare decisions and urge you to support this bill which strengthens those options.

The changes proposed in SB120 reflect a scope of practice that is being practiced safely and effectively by naturopathic physicians in many other states around the country. Given our unique health care challenges in Alaska, we should be leading the charge in pursuing policies which provide consumers with more options and greater access to affordable care.

Allowing naturopathic doctors to do what they are trained to do will not only benefit me as a consumer, but will benefit the state overall, by increasing competition and helping to drive down health care costs in Alaska. In addition, since naturopathic doctors focus more on preventative health, this bill, if passed, will help decrease the need for expensive health care for Alaskans well into the future.

Thank you in advance for your support of SB120, and for taking one step toward better health care in our great state.

Sincerely,
Kate Huber

P.O. Box 736
Valdez, AK 99686-0736

1-31-18

TO: Members of the Senate Labor and Commerce Committee
CC: All Legislators

Members of the Senate Labor and Commerce Committee:

My name is Margaret E Lehl and I am writing to urge you to support Senate Bill 120 (SB120), which updates the scope of practice for Naturopathic doctors to reflect their education and training.

As a retired RN with past experience in emergency nursing and school nursing, I am well aware of the need for access to affordable medical care as well as increased knowledge in disease prevention care for many of the families I had contact with.

Health care costs in Alaska are among the highest in the country. This places a tremendous burden on Alaskan families, creates a drag on the overall economy, and is one of the key drivers for government spending. Although difficult to address completely, SB120 offers one obvious step in the right direction.

The changes proposed in SB120 reflect a scope of practice that is being practiced safely and effectively by naturopathic physicians in many other states around the country. Given our unique health care challenges in Alaska, we should be leading the charge in pursuing policies which provide consumers with more options and greater access to affordable care.

Allowing naturopathic doctors to do what they are trained to do will not only benefit me as a consumer, but will benefit the state overall, by increasing competition and helping to drive down health care costs in Alaska. In addition, since naturopathic doctors focus more on preventative health, this bill, if passed, will help decrease the need for expensive health care for Alaskans well into the future.

Thank you in advance for your support of SB120, and for taking one step toward better health care in our great state.

Sincerely, Margaret E Lehl Nikiski, AK

2-4-18

To: Members of the Senate Labor and Commerce Committee

I have been going to a Naturopath for 20 years in Juneau. When I first started going I had several health concerns. We first worked on cleaning up my digestive system. No drugs were used. And over the years my health stays in good order. I am now 72 and still climb all the ridges in Juneau.

Please let our Naturopaths practice to their full education and training. I wish my Doctor, yes Doctor, could perform minor office procedures, issue vitamins, minerals and non-controlled substance prescription medications.

My Doctor makes sure I do preventative things, exercise, yoga, walking, proper nutrients etc.. I feel this saves me money, saves Social Security money and this good State. Alaska naturopathic doctors have a more limited scope of practice than other health care providers in Alaska with equal or lesser training. I would like to see more naturopathic doctors throughout the State of Alaska.

Thank you in advance for your support of SB120. Please help Alaska move forward to being a better State in health care with Naturopaths.

Thanks Sandy R Williams

February 5, 2018

TO: Members of Senate Labor and Commerce
CC: All Legislators

Members of Senate Labor and Commerce Committee:

My name is Phyllis Haggland and I am writing to urge you to support Senate Bill (SB 120) which updates the boundaries of practice for Naturopathic doctors to reflect their education and training.

The changes proposed in SB120 bring Naturopathic practice more in line with other States and European countries. It also gives consumers more choices for preventive health care, something that conventional medicine is not geared to. In my case only my Naturopath was willing to undertake the extensive RECODE prodigal from Bredesen in preventing and reducing dementia. And without Naturopathic care I would still be stuck on steroids for microscopic colitis instead of healed.

Giving consumers more options will also benefit the State by lowering health costs with increased competition, admittedly something the AMA does not support. But Alaskans need more choices and greater access to affordable health care.

Thank you in advance for your support of SB120.

Yours in better health care for our State.

Phyllis Haggland

Senator.Mia.Costello@akleg.gov

Senator.Shelley.Hughes@akleg.gov

Senator.Kevin.Meyer@akleg.gov

Senator.Gary.Stevens@akleg.gov

Senator.Berta.Gardner@akleg.gov

Jane.Conway@akleg.gov

Aknaturopaths@gmail.com

2-6-18

Dear members of the senate & commerce committee,

I, Cecilia Deatherage, urge you to support SB 120 to allow naturopathic doctors the legal rights & protection to practice fully within their extensive education & training scope.

As one who was a private practitioner of speech language pathology in Alaska for almost a decade, I understand each profession need to have thorough educational, as well practical standards & guidelines to provide optimal care for patients. Heath care, especially in Alaska, although nationwide has skyrocketed creating major stress on individuals & families. SB120 will help establish guidelines in Alaska to reflect a scope of practice safely & effectively practiced by naturopathic physicians in many lower 48 states. This bill will provide more options & competitive pricing in the healthcare industry of Alaska.

As an individual, and as a family, I look to naturopathic physicians for their expertise especially in preventative medicine. This bill is a win-win-win situation, for patients, doctors & the state of Alaska.

Thank you. Respectfully submitted,

Cecilia Deatherage, MS, CCC-SLP

Speech Language Pathologist

37041 Rafie St Soldotna, AK 99669

2-9-18

Members of the Senate Labor and Commerce Committee:

My name is Jenni Opp and I am writing to urge you to support Senate Bill 120 (SB120), which updates the scope of practice for Naturopathic doctors to reflect their education and training.

Health care costs in Alaska are among the highest in the country. This places a tremendous burden on Alaskan families, creates a drag on the overall economy, and is one of the key drivers for government spending. Although difficult to address completely, SB120 offers one obvious step in the right direction.

The changes proposed in SB120 reflect a scope of practice that is being practiced safely and effectively by naturopathic physicians in many other states around the country. Given our unique health care challenges in Alaska, we should be leading the charge in pursuing policies which provide consumers with more options and greater access to affordable care.

Allowing naturopathic doctors to do what they are trained to do will not only benefit me as a consumer, but will benefit the state overall, by increasing competition and helping to drive down health care costs in Alaska. In addition, since naturopathic doctors focus more on preventative health, this bill, if passed, will help decrease the need for expensive health care for Alaskans well into the future.

Thank you in advance for your support of SB120, and for taking one step toward better health care in our great state.

Thank you for your Consideration,

Jenni Opp sweethotmama's@gmail.com 907-590-8036

2-12-18

To: Members of the Senate Labor and Commerce Committee

CC: All legislators

My name is Colleen James. I have been a registered nurse working in Alaska for 31 years. I am writing you to support SB120 which will update the scope of practice for Naturopathic Physicians to reflect both their education and training. This bill will get us in line with most other states in the union. The focus of their training is **prevention of illness**. Their training includes 90 percent more emphasis on nutrition than most physicians get in a lifetime. Support of this bill will enable the state to **positively impact the crippling cost of our current spending on healthcare**. I strongly support **consumers having a choice** in how they spend their health care money. If you have been paying attention to cutting edge health research in the last few years you will be aware that **diet, vitamins, life style changes and natural substances have reversed many diseases and in addition they have also improved quality of life and with no side effects**. I have a grandson with severe Autism whose symptoms have improved 80% with diet and supportive supplements alone. It is clear that this state needs to help itself promote health rather than hindering people's ability to get the quality health care that they want for a reasonable price.

Thank you for supporting SB120.

Colleen James RN, BSN, BA, SANE A/P, Fellow Infant- Parent Mental Health U Mass Boston
PO Box 915 Homer, AK 99603

2-9-18

Members of the Senate Labor and Commerce Committee:

My name is Jason Opp and I am writing to urge you to support Senate Bill 120 (SB120), which updates the scope of practice for Naturopathic doctors to reflect their education and training.

Health care costs in Alaska are among the highest in the country. This places a tremendous burden on Alaskan families, creates a drag on the overall economy, and is one of the key drivers for government spending. Although difficult to address completely, SB120 offers one obvious step in the right direction.

The changes proposed in SB120 reflect a scope of practice that is being practiced safely and effectively by naturopathic physicians in many other states around the country. Given our unique health care challenges in Alaska, we should be leading the charge in pursuing policies which provide consumers with more options and greater access to affordable care.

Allowing naturopathic doctors to do what they are trained to do will not only benefit me as a consumer, but will benefit the state overall, by increasing competition and helping to drive down health care costs in Alaska. In addition, since naturopathic doctors focus more on preventative health, this bill, if passed, will help decrease the need for expensive health care for Alaskans well into the future.

Thank you in advance for your support of SB120, and for taking one step toward better health care in our great state.

Thank you for your Consideration,

Jason Opp
907-347-7378

2-12-18

Members of the Senate Labor and Commerce Committee,

My name is Dr. Joshua Costello DC and I am writing you to urge you to support Senate Bill 120. This bill will allow Naturopathic doctors to practice within a scope in which they have been trained.

I can NOT believe this is even an issue!!!!

It is with good faith that all physicians go through school with the hopes that when they finally start practice and will be able to help their fellow man. It is extremely disheartening to learn depending on your state that your scope of practice may be far less than what you trained for in school. The state of Alaska is an embarrassing example of this for Naturopathic doctors.

While I understand that laws are in place to protect the public and I respect these laws, it is hard to understand that through politics the Alaskan population have not gained access to the full potential of a full scope of practice for the Naturopathic doctor.

Isn't this why and what college accreditation and board exams are for? To weed out the people that are not qualified for the job. I believe that state scope of practice for any physician should reflect what is taught in school and any other state required continuing education.

It is obvious that Alaska has some of the highest costs for health care in the country and allowing Naturopathic doctors to practice as they have trained would help to drive down health costs. This in and of itself should be reason enough for this bill to pass based on good economics. Not to mention that the Naturopathic doctor offers unique knowledge and alternatives to the conventional medical model which has its obvious shortcomings. This is vital for the people of Alaska to have more choices and pathways when consuming medical care, because medical care intervention exists on a spectrum.

In a world of ever increasing chronic disease, I agree with the approach of prevention and education along with the most conservative intervention for patient care to deliver the very best health outcome for our patients.

I myself am a Chiropractor and know firsthand how happy people are when they have a medical issue that is resolved with a few visits at my office rather than a more invasive intervention like surgery or long-standing prescriptions to drugs.

Having said that I and also the Naturopathic doctors that I know, highly value integrative approach to care and being on a team that helps a patient reach its goals, which includes making referrals to other medical providers and communicating with those medical providers about our patients.

The Naturopathic doctor offers this kind of patient education and awareness to the public which is vital for helping an increasing population deal with health care costs and the lack of education relating to chronic disease.

When you restrict a Physician's scope you are quite literally taking tools out of their tool box and forcing them to help their patients with one hand tied behind their backs. The people of Alaska are the ones who suffer with regards to quality of life, access to appropriate medical care and cost of health care.

Please do not let the people of Alaska down by not passing this bill. Do the right thing and vote to allow a scope of practice that is based on training and not on politics.

Warmest Regards,
Dr. Joshua Costello DC

SENATE BILL 120 / HOUSE BILL 326: Alaska Naturopathic Health Care Reform

Problem

- Alaskans suffer from 1) some of the highest health care costs in the nation, 2) increasing prevalence of chronic and preventable disease, and 3) inadequate access to health care - particularly in rural areas
- Health care costs are a key driver increasing Alaska's budget
- The scope of practice for licensed Naturopathic doctors in Alaska does not reflect their full education and training. This is an area that has affected me in serving as a Naturopath

Solution

SB120/HB326 redefines the scope of practice for naturopathic doctors in Alaska to reflect their education and training. Among other things, the bill allows licensed practitioners to, within the scope of their training, perform minor office procedures and issue vitamins, minerals and non-controlled substance prescription medications. Which will allow them to provide more efficient primary care in Alaska.

Rationale

- Allowing naturopathic doctors to practice the full scope of their training will immediately increase the number of primary care providers in Alaska. This will improve healthcare access, increase competition in the market and help drive down costs.
- Naturopathic doctors' primary focus is on disease prevention, rather than symptom and medication management. In the long-run, this type of care saves money for consumers, insurers and the state. It also decreases the utilization of health care (unnecessary ER visits, frequent med checks and follow up visits).
- In Alaska, naturopathic doctors have a more limited scope of practice than other health care providers in Alaska with equal or lesser training.
- Naturopathic doctors practice safely under this same scope in many other states.
- Regulating naturopathic doctors appropriately will encourage more young practitioners to move to Alaska and serve Alaskans. Naturopathic doctors qualify for Indian Health Service's national loan repayment program aimed to increase access to remote Alaska but are unable to make use of this program due to the limited scope of practice.

Dr. Gary Ferguson BS, ND
Healthy Communities Consultant
2930 Capstan Dr.
Anchorage, Alaska 99516
907-632-3624 cell/home
www.drgaryferguson.com
natureway@mac.com

From: Gary Ferguson [mailto:natureway@me.com]
Sent: Friday, March 2, 2018 12:43 PM
To: Sen. Cathy Giessel <Sen.Cathy.Giessel@akleg.gov>
Cc: Jane Conway <Jane.Conway@akleg.gov>
Subject: SB120/HB326 Naturopathic Healthcare in Alaska

Greetings Senator Giessel!

THANK YOU for your support of SB120!

I'm a practicing Naturopathic Doctor in Anchorage Alaska, and have been licensed in Alaska since 2001 (#0035). I'm originally from Sand Point in the Shumagin Islands (grandparents are Emil & Marina Gundersen from Sanak Island/Sand Point). Our Naturopathic Licensing Bill is currently slated to be heard in Senate and House Labor & Commerce followed by Finance.

I would love to be able to practice as I am trained in our region (and also have served the entire State of Alaska in my practice over the years). Having been licensed in the State of Oregon in the past, their licensing of ND's is much more progressive than Alaska - which allows us to practice as we are trained and tested by our national licensing exam the NPLEX.

ND's now have licenses to practice in 23 states and have been huge assets in the field of Integrative Medicine. We are especially good at wellness-based approaches to chronic disease.

I am proud to be the first Alaska Native Naturopathic Physician and have worked in the Alaska Tribal Health System as a public health professional serving my home area working for Eastern Aleutian Tribes (EAT) and then serving in leadership at the Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium (ANTHC). I most recently served as RurAL CAP's CEO and am now a Healthy Communities Consultant working as a catalyst in our Alaskan communities to help communities address their well-being. I also serve as Adjunct Professor at the University of Alaska School of Business & Public Policy and on the Municipality of Anchorage's Health Commission.

I believe Naturopathic Doctors will play a crucial role as we face escalating health care costs, as our modalities are especially helpful in counseling patients on behavior modification and addressing the dietary influences that address health promotion and chronic disease prevention. I have had the great honor in helping co-produce the award winning Store Outside Your Door initiative (www.youtube.com/anthcstoreoutside) - which aims to address food/nutrition insecurity in our rural communities through culturally appropriate ways to hunt, fish, gather and grow food. Our treatment philosophy is all about food as medicine. My life's work has been about addressing the social, economic, environmental and cultural determinants of health.

I've highlighted below some of the rationale for SB120/HB326. I appreciate your support. Please feel free to reach out to me, should you have any questions regarding the practice of Naturopathic Medicine or our practice in Alaska.

Best to you!
Gary

9-5-17

TO: Members of the Senate Labor and Commerce Committee
CC: All Legislators

Members of the Senate Labor and Commerce Committee:

My name is Anna Deal and I am writing to urge you to support Senate Bill 120 (SB120), which updates the scope of practice for Naturopathic doctors to reflect their education and training.

My family uses naturopathic care as our primary care because of its effectiveness and preventative nature. Naturopathic medicine has helped me personally with substantial health issues that standard medicine simply could not diagnose or remedy. The naturopathic solutions are substantially less expensive, more effective, and with positive rather than compromised long-term health effects.

It is frustrating to have to visit a different health care practitioner who is not familiar with our health history for treatments that our primary naturopathic care provider is trained to provide. The additional and unnecessary visit is time consuming and expensive.

Giving Alaska's health care professionals the legal ability to provide care that they were trained for just makes sense.

- It provides Alaskans, especially those with limited health care resources in remote communities the most options for their health.
- It provides access to higher quality care by allowing people to stay with the primary care provider who knows them best for more procedures
- It reduces cost and time involved in accessing that care by eliminating additional unnecessary visits.
- It allows naturopathic health care practitioners to provide the care that they were trained to deliver and gives them access to all the tools that they know how to use in treatment.
- Procedures which are outside the scope of naturopathic training would still be referred to a specialist, so safety would not be compromised.

The only benefit to over-burdensome and outdated limits to naturopathic care is to the standardized medical group, a special interest group who will use scare tactics in order to protect their interests.

Thank you in advance for your support of SB120.

Sincerely,

Anna Deal
16641 East Helmaur Place
Palmer, AK 99645

October 9, 2017

TO: Senator Shelley Hughes (Senator.Shelley.Hughes@akleg.gov),
Representative Cathy Tilton
(Representitive.Cathy.Tilton@akleg.gov)
CC: All Legislators, jane.conway@akleg.gov

Dear Legislators,

My name is **Eugene W. Yockey** and I am writing to urge you to support Senate Bill 120 (SB120), which updates the scope of practice for naturopathic doctors. Although difficult to address completely, SB120 offers one obvious step in the right direction because it allows Naturopathic doctors to practice what they were trained to do. Additionally, the changes proposed in SB 120 reflect a scope of practice that is being practiced safely and effectively by naturopathic physicians in many other states around the country. Given our unique health care challenges in Alaska, we should be leading the charge in pursuing policies which provide consumers with more options and greater access to affordable care. SB120 does that for those of us who want to use Naturopathic Doctors.

Allowing naturopathic doctors to do what they are trained to do will not only benefit me as a consumer, but will benefit the state overall, by increasing competition and helping to drive down health care costs in Alaska. In addition, since naturopathic doctors focus more on preventative health, this bill, if passed, will help decrease the need for expensive health care for Alaskans well into the future.

Thank you in advance for your support of SB 120, and for taking one step toward better health care in our great state.

Sincerely,

Eugene W. Yockey, Jr

Chugiak, Alaska



OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

200 East Roosevelt Road Lombard, Illinois 60148-4539
P 630-889-6604 F 630-889-6600 E jstiefel@nuhs.edu

February 8, 2018

Dear Members of the Senate Labor and Commerce Committee:

In support of Senate Bill 120, please accept this correspondence as a brief clarification regarding our student's ability to provide expanded health services to the people of Alaska. Students in the naturopathic medical degree program at National University of Health Sciences receive thorough instruction in Pharmacology. This training is delivered by Ph.D. in pharmacology, Pharm. D., MD instructors primarily. This is accomplished across three courses totaling approximately 100 hours. In addition to these designated times, the use of clinical pharmacology is taught across the curriculum in many other courses that focus on internal medicine topics and specialty populations such as Pediatrics. This includes instruction in the CDC Immunization Schedule.

In our clinical training, a very large proportion of our patient population uses a prescription medicine, as is normal for the US population. While we work with the patients to restore health, our graduates are trained and evaluated on recognizing the needs for these medications and to understand the suitability of various natural medicines in combination with these drugs. Our faculty have access to constantly updated herb-drug and drug-drug interactions databases and expect that our students develop expertise here.

This training also prepares our students for the pharmacology component of the Naturopathic Physicians Licensing Examinations which encompasses a long list of legend drugs from all major categories.

Additionally, we instruct our students in Minor Surgery and office procedures such as wound inspection, debridement, repair (minor, such as non-facial lacerations) , biopsy and other topics. This is taught by an MD with extensive surgical experience and students have both theory and lab instruction.

Should you require any additional information, the university would be happy to assist the committee.

Best regards,



Joseph Stiefel, MS, EdD, DC
President

cc: All Legislators

09-26-17

TO: Members of the Senate Labor and Commerce Committee

CC: All Legislators

Members of the Senate Labor and Commerce Committee:

My name is Tony Simko and I am writing to urge you to support Senate Bill 120 (SB120), which updates the scope of practice for Naturopathic doctors to reflect their education and training.

Health care costs in Alaska are among the highest in the country. This places a tremendous burden on Alaskan families, creates a drag on the overall economy, and is one of the key drivers for government spending. Although difficult to address completely, SB120 offers one obvious step in the right direction.

The changes proposed in SB120 reflect a scope of practice that is being practiced safely and effectively by naturopathic physicians in many other states around the country. Given our unique health care challenges in Alaska, we should be leading the charge in pursuing policies which provide consumers with more options and greater access to affordable care.

Allowing naturopathic doctors to do what they are trained to do will not only benefit me as a consumer, but will benefit the state overall, by increasing competition and helping to drive down health care costs in Alaska. In addition, since naturopathic doctors focus more on preventative health, this bill, if passed, will help decrease the need for expensive health care for Alaskans well into the future.

Thank you in advance for your support of SB120, and for taking one step toward better health care in our great state.

Sincerely,

**Tony J. Simko
Program Coordinator/Instructor
Diesel/Heavy Equipment Technology
UAF Community & Technical College**

Sept. 9, 2017

Hello,

I ask you to support SB120.

The naturopathic doctors in my life have made a critical difference in my health and way of life. They are highly trained and skilled. SB120 will enable them to be less hampered in the areas that they, as doctors, should be able to do (such as prescribe medicine). SB120 will enable them to provide more comprehensive care to patients.

Please support SB120.

Thank you for all you do.

Lynda Ault
Fairbanks, AK
ault39@gmail.com

9-2-17

TO: Members of the Senate Labor and Commerce Committee

CC: All Legislators

Members of the Senate Labor and Commerce Committee:

My name is Susan Barnes and I am writing to urge you to support Senate Bill 120 (SB120), which updates the scope of practice for Naturopathic doctors to reflect their education and training.

Health care costs in Alaska are among the highest in the country. This places a tremendous burden on Alaskan families, creates a drag on the overall economy, and is one of the key drivers for government spending. Although difficult to address completely, SB120 offers one obvious step in the right direction.

The changes proposed in SB120 reflect a scope of practice that is being practiced safely and effectively by naturopathic physicians in many other states around the country. Given our unique health care challenges in Alaska, we should be leading the charge in pursuing policies which provide consumers with more options and greater access to affordable care.

Allowing naturopathic doctors to do what they are trained to do will not only benefit me as a consumer, but will benefit the state overall, by increasing competition and helping to drive down health care costs in Alaska. In addition, since naturopathic doctors focus more on preventative health, this bill, if passed, will help decrease the need for expensive health care for Alaskans well into the future.

Thank you in advance for your support of SB120, and for taking one step toward better health care in our great state.

Sincerely,

Susan Barnes

(907)727-7111

3501 W 41st Ave #A

Anchorage, AK 99517

-----Original Message-----

From: River Bean [<mailto:river@arcticorganics.com>]
Sent: Wednesday, August 30, 2017 4:06 PM
To: Sen. Mia Costello <Sen.Mia.Costello@akleg.gov>
Cc: Sen. Shelley Hughes <Senator.Shelley.Hughes@akleg.gov>; Sen. Kevin Meyer <Sen.Kevin.Meyer@akleg.gov>; Sen. Gary Stevens <Sen.Gary.Stevens@akleg.gov>; Sen. Berta Gardner <Sen.Berta.Gardner@akleg.gov>; Sen. Cathy Giessel <Sen.Cathy.Giessel@akleg.gov>; Jane Conway <Jane.Conway@akleg.gov>
Subject: SB 120

Members of the Senate Labor and Commerce Committee:

My name is River Bean and I am writing to urge you to support Senate Bill 120 (SB120), which updates the scope of practice for Naturopathic doctors to reflect their education and training.

Health care costs in Alaska are among the highest in the country. This places a tremendous burden on Alaskan families, creates a drag on the overall economy, and is one of the key drivers for government spending. Although difficult to address completely, SB120 offers one obvious step in the right direction.

The changes proposed in SB120 reflect a scope of practice that is being practiced safely and effectively by naturopathic physicians in many other states around the country. Given our unique health care challenges in Alaska, we should be leading the charge in pursuing policies which provide consumers with more options and greater access to affordable care.

Allowing naturopathic doctors to do what they are trained to do will not only benefit me as a consumer, but will benefit the state overall, by increasing competition and helping to drive down health care costs in Alaska. In addition, since naturopathic doctors focus more on preventative health, this bill, if passed, will help decrease the need for expensive health care for Alaskans well into the future.

Thank you in advance for your support of SB120, and for taking one step toward better health care in our great state.

Sincerely,

[YOUR NAME]

CHRISTINE L. SIMKO, N.D.

800 McGrath Rd.
Fairbanks, AK 99712
Phone: 907.347.9640
christinesimko@gmail.com
drsimko@goodmedicineworks.com

October 2, 2017

TO: Members of the Senate Labor and Commerce Committee
CC: All Legislators
Juneau, Alaska

RE: Senate Bill 120

Dear Legislators:

My name is Christine Simko and I am writing to urge you to support Senate Bill 120 (SB120), which updates the scope of practice for Naturopathic doctors to reflect their education and training. I am one of those NDs and I feel I could be helping many more people should I be allowed to use my full scope of training in practice.

Health care costs in Alaska are among the highest in the country. This places a tremendous burden on Alaskan families, creates a drag on the overall economy, and is one of the key drivers for government spending. Although difficult to address completely, SB120 offers one obvious step in the right direction.

The changes proposed in SB120 reflect a scope of practice that is being practiced safely and effectively by naturopathic physicians in many other states around the country. Given our unique health care challenges in Alaska, we should be leading the charge in pursuing policies which provide consumers with more options and greater access to affordable care.

Allowing naturopathic doctors to do what they are trained to do will not only benefit me as a consumer, but will benefit the state overall, by increasing competition and helping to drive down health care costs in Alaska. In addition, since naturopathic

doctors focus more on preventative health, this bill, if passed, will help decrease the need for expensive health care for Alaskans well into the future.

Thank you in advance for your support of SB120, and for taking one step toward better health care in our great state.

Sincerely,

Christine Simko, ND

Sept. 11, 2017

DEAR SENATORS:

THANKS VERY MUCH..... YOUR CONSIDERATION IN SUPPORT OF SENATE BILL 120, TO REALISTICALLY EXPAND SCOPE OF PRACTICE FOR ALASKA NATURPATHS.

THE BILL WOULD:

--IMPROVE HEALTH CARE, WITH EMPHASIS ON PREVENTION

--INCREASE NUMBER OF PRIMARY PROVIDERS

--ENHANCE FREEDOM OF CHOICE IN MEDICAL CARE

--REDUCE MED CARE COSTS

THANKS AGAIN FOR ANY OF YOUR EFFORTS TOWARD IMPROVING EFFICIENCY OF THE MOST COSTLY MEDICAL INDUSTRY IN HISTORY!

SINCERELY,

KARL SCHOEPPE JUNEAU, AK

9-5-17

TO: Members of the Senate Labor and Commerce Committee

CC: All Legislators

Members of the Senate Labor and Commerce Committee:

My name is Kari Sellars and I am writing to urge you to support Senate Bill 120 (SB120), which updates the scope of practice for Naturopathic doctors to reflect their education and training.

Health care costs in Alaska are among the highest in the country. This places a tremendous burden on Alaskan families, creates a drag on the overall economy, and is one of the key drivers for government spending. Although difficult to address completely, SB120 offers one obvious step in the right direction.

The changes proposed in SB120 reflect a scope of practice that is being practiced safely and effectively by naturopathic physicians in many other states around the country. Given our unique health care challenges in Alaska, we should be leading the charge in pursuing policies which provide consumers with more options and greater access to affordable care.

Allowing naturopathic doctors to do what they are trained to do will not only benefit me as a consumer, but will benefit the state overall, by increasing competition and helping to drive down health care costs in Alaska. In addition, since naturopathic doctors focus more on preventative health, this bill, if passed, will help decrease the need for expensive health care for Alaskans well into the future.

Thank you in advance for your support of SB120, and for taking one step toward better health care in our great state.

Sincerely,

Kari Sellars

TO: Members of the Senate Labor and Commerce Committee
CC: All Legislators

Members of the Senate Labor and Commerce Committee:

My name is Jim Simko and I am writing to urge you to support Senate Bill 120 (SB120), which updates the scope of practice for Naturopathic doctors to reflect their education and training.

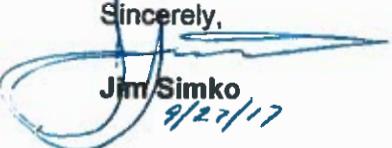
Health care costs in Alaska are among the highest in the country. This places a tremendous burden on Alaskan families, creates a drag on the overall economy, and is one of the key drivers for government spending. Although difficult to address completely, SB120 offers one obvious step in the right direction.

The changes proposed in SB120 reflect a scope of practice that is being practiced safely and effectively by naturopathic physicians in many other states around the country. Given our unique health care challenges in Alaska, we should be leading the charge in pursuing policies which provide consumers with more options and greater access to affordable care.

Allowing naturopathic doctors to do what they are trained to do will not only benefit me as a consumer, but will benefit the state overall, by increasing competition and helping to drive down health care costs in Alaska. In addition, since naturopathic doctors focus more on preventative health, this bill, if passed, will help decrease the need for expensive health care for Alaskans well into the future.

Thank you in advance for your support of SB120, and for taking one step toward better health care in our great state.

Sincerely,


Jim Simko

8/27/17

J&S Service LLC
Fairbanks, Alaska
jim@arcticlinkalaska.com

Ph: 907-4573850

Fax: 907-4577895

Cell: 907-5901974

www.arcticlinkalaska.com

Alaska business Lic # 1003064

VOSB

TO: Members of the Senate Labor and Commerce Committee

FROM: Laurie Steelsmith N.D., LAc.

DATE: September 13, 2017

Dear Members of the Senate Labor and Commerce Committee:

I am writing to ask you to please support Senate Bill 120 (SB120), which updates the scope of practice for Naturopathic doctors to reflect their education and training.

Health care costs in Alaska are among the highest in the country. This places a tremendous burden on Alaskan families, creates a drag on the overall economy, and is one of the key drivers for government spending. Although difficult to address completely, SB120 offers one obvious step in the right direction.

The changes proposed in SB120 reflect a scope of practice that is being practiced safely and effectively by naturopathic physicians in many other states around the country. Given our unique health care challenges in Alaska, we should be leading the charge in pursuing policies which provide consumers with more options and greater access to affordable care.

Allowing naturopathic doctors to do what they are trained to do will not only benefit me as a consumer, but will benefit the state overall, by increasing competition and helping to drive down health care costs in Alaska. In addition, since naturopathic doctors focus more on preventative health, this bill, if passed, will help decrease the need for expensive health care for Alaskans well into the future.

Thank you in advance for your support of SB120, and for taking one step toward better health care in our great state.

Sincerely,

Dr. Laurie Steelsmith N.D., L.Ac.
Naturopathic Physician, Acupuncturist, and Author
Medical Director of Steelsmith Natural Health Center
www.DrSteelsmith.com; www.SteelmanHealth.com
(808) 943-0330

1-10-18

TO: Members of the Senate Labor and Commerce Committee

CC: All Legislators

Members of the Senate Labor and Commerce Committee:

My name is Sally Stuart and I am writing to urge you to support Senate Bill 120 (SB120), which updates the scope of practice for Naturopathic doctors to reflect their education and training. I wrote once before on October 26, 2013, when the legislature tried and passed regulation to limit how Naturopath's can practice medicine. These doctors study and learn as much and more as your traditional MD, just a different method of providing healthcare. A method of health and prevention BEFORE you get sick, but afterwards too if you become ill.

American people are not happy with conventional medical care and are seeking information and care through alternative means. I know I have.

Uninformed people would have us believe that medical treatment outside the purview of conventional medicine is all quackery. This shows lack of knowledge and history of true holistic medicine from different sources, be it homeopathy, naturopathy, herbalists and more. Those options got us through difficult times, before drugs and the paradigm of prescription chemical drugs came into being with the discovery of penicillin and of course the power-hungry tyrant John Rockefeller.

Destroying any Competition to Western Medicine

"Rockefeller saw that there were many types of doctors and healing modalities in existence at that time, from chiropractic to naturopathy to homeopathy to holistic medicine to herbal medicine and more. He wanted to eliminate the competitors of western medicine (the only modality which would propose drugs and radiation as treatment, thus enriching Rockefeller who owned the means to produce these treatments), so he hired a man called Abraham Flexner to submit a report to Congress in 1910. This report "concluded" that there were too many doctors and medical schools in America, and that all the natural healing modalities which had existed for hundreds or thousands of years were unscientific quackery. It called for the standardization of medical education, whereby only the allopathic-based AMA be allowed to grant medical school licenses in the US."

"Sadly, Congress acted upon the conclusions and made them law. Incredibly, allopathy became the standard mainstream modality, even though its 3 main methods of treatment in the 1800s had been blood-letting, surgery and the injection of toxic heavy metals like lead and mercury to supposedly displace disease! It should be noted that hemp was also demonized and criminalized not long after this, not because there is anything dangerous about it, but because it was a huge threat (as both medicine and fuel) to the Rockefeller drug and oil industries, respectively."

"Greek physician Hippocrates wrote:

Nature heals. The doctor's task consists in strengthening the natural healing powers, to direct them, and especially not to interfere with them."

<http://www.thesleuthjournal.com/western-medicine-rockefeller-medicine-way/>

Medicine is big business for the government and economy. It is set up with chemical treatment to provide help for the symptoms of illness, but no real cures ... thus repeat visits. The Naturopathic protocols are different and even more valuable. LET them practice their form of healthcare to the fullest. Government complains of the high cost of healthcare, but never wants to do anything or listen to different preventions to lower those costs. Medical licenses from accredited Naturopathic Universities should not be treated any differently from any Traditional medical school.

Allowing Naturopathic doctors to do what they are trained to do will not only benefit me as a consumer, but will benefit the state overall, by increasing competition and helping to drive down health care costs in Alaska.

9-2-17

TO: Members of the Senate Labor and Commerce Committee

CC: All Legislators

Members of the Senate Labor and Commerce Committee:

My name is **Dianna Taplin** and I am writing to urge you to support Senate Bill 120 (SB120), which updates the scope of practice for Naturopathic doctors to reflect their education and training.

Health care costs in Alaska are among the highest in the country. And our choices for alternative treatments are few. Although difficult to address completely, SB120 offers one obvious step in the right direction.

The changes proposed in SB120 reflect a scope of practice that is being practiced safely and effectively by naturopathic physicians in many other states around the country. A growing number of people choose to be responsible for their own health by improved eating and exercise habits. People like us would prefer to prevent disease rather than treat symptoms and manage disease. Prevention rather than treatment would seriously decrease the burdensome cost of health care as it now operates.

Allowing naturopathic doctors to do what they are trained to do will benefit me as a consumer by allowing me to choose a system that matches my lifestyle and world view. But will also benefit the state overall, by increasing competition and helping to drive down health care costs in Alaska. In addition, since naturopathic doctors focus more on preventative health, this bill, if passed, will help decrease the need for expensive health care for Alaskans well into the future.

Thank you in advance for your support of SB120, and for taking one step toward better health care in our great state, and for allowing regular people to have a say in how they achieve their health goals.

Sincerely,

Dianna Taplin

Box 1567
Soldotna, Alaska 99669
cell 907-252-2249

9-3-17

Members of the Senate Labor and Commerce Committee
CC: All Legislators

Members of the Senate Labor and Commerce Committee:

My name is Nina Tartakoff and I am writing to urge you to support Senate Bill 120 (SB120), which updates the scope of practice for Naturopathic doctors to reflect their education and training.

I find my naturopath to be my most valuable doctor in helping me deal with my auto-immune disease. Her training is different than my primary doctor and her ability to order labs and have insurance pay for them is critical in my care. My naturopath's view and treatment of this illness has kept me healthy and off costly medications.

Health care costs in Alaska are among the highest in the country. This places a tremendous burden on Alaskan families, creates a drag on the overall economy, and is one of the key drivers for government spending. Although difficult to address completely, SB120 offers one obvious step in the right direction.

The changes proposed in SB120 reflect a scope of practice that is being practiced safely and effectively by naturopathic physicians in many other states around the country. Given our unique health care challenges in Alaska, we should be leading the charge in pursuing policies which provide consumers with more options and greater access to affordable care.

Allowing naturopathic doctors to do what they are trained to do will not only benefit me as a consumer, but will benefit the state overall, by increasing competition and helping to drive down health care costs in Alaska. In addition, since naturopathic doctors focus more on preventative health, this bill, if passed, will help decrease the need for expensive health care for Alaskans well into the future.

Thank you in advance for your support of SB120, and for taking one step toward better health care in our great state.

Sincerely,

Nina Tartakoff

1-16-18

Members of the Senate Labor and Commerce Committee:

My name is Claire Torbensen-Armstrong and I am writing to urge you to support Senate Bill 120 (SB120), which updates the scope of practice for Naturopathic doctors to reflect their education and training.

Health care costs in Alaska are among the highest in the country. This places a tremendous burden on Alaskan families, creates a drag on the overall economy, and is one of the key drivers for government spending. Although difficult to address completely, SB120 offers one obvious step in the right direction.

The changes proposed in SB120 reflect a scope of practice that is being practiced safely and effectively by naturopathic physicians in many other states around the country. Given our unique health care challenges in Alaska, we should be leading the charge in pursuing policies which provide consumers with more options and greater access to affordable care.

Allowing naturopathic doctors to do what they are trained to do will not only benefit me as a consumer, but will benefit the state overall, by increasing competition and helping to drive down health care costs in Alaska. In addition, since naturopathic doctors focus more on preventative health, this bill, if passed, will help decrease the need for expensive health care for Alaskans well into the future.

Thank you in advance for your support of SB 120, and for taking one step toward better health care in our great state.

Sincerely,

Claire Torbensen-Armstrong
PO Box 773305
Eagle River, AK 99577

TO: Members of the Senate Labor and Commerce Committee
CC: All Legislators

Members of the Senate Labor and Commerce Committee:

My name is **Nicole A Tragis** and I am writing to urge you to support Senate Bill 120 (SB120), which updates the scope of practice for Naturopathic doctors to reflect their education and training.

Health care costs in Alaska are among the highest in the country. This places a tremendous burden on Alaskan families, creates a drag on the overall economy, and is one of the key drivers for government spending. Although difficult to address completely, SB120 offers one obvious step in the right direction.

The changes proposed in SB120 reflect a scope of practice that is being practiced safely and effectively by naturopathic physicians in many other states around the country. Given our unique health care challenges in Alaska, we should be leading the charge in pursuing policies which provide consumers with more options and greater access to affordable care.

Allowing naturopathic doctors to do what they are trained to do will not only benefit me as a consumer, but will benefit the state overall, by increasing competition and helping to drive down health care costs in Alaska. In addition, since naturopathic doctors focus more on preventative health, this bill, if passed, will help decrease the need for expensive health care for Alaskans well into the future.

Thank you in advance for your support of SB120, and for taking one step toward better health care in our great state.

Sincerely,

Nicole A Tragis

907-723-2343

akcaptaincrown@hotmail.com

Juneau, Alaska

From: Emily Kane
To: [Rep. Sam Kito](#)
Cc: [Rep. Geran Tarr](#)
Subject: HB326 - modernizing scope of practice for Naturopathic Physicians
Date: Saturday, February 17, 2018 10:40:11 PM

Dear Representative Kito

My office is two blocks away from yours and I have served the people of Juneau, and beyond, with whole-health, patient-centered primary care services for 25 years. My undergrad training was at Harvard University and my doctorate training at Bastyr University in Seattle. I spent 24 years pursuing education beyond high school. And yet, in the state of Alaska, I work with one hand tied behind my back. I'm not allowed to suture wounds, nor prescribe basic life-saving emergency medications nor even use IV saline for rehydration. Since hormones and even some vitamins have become "prescription only" I cannot dispense medicines about which I have published numerous peer-reviewed papers, and 2 books. I am arguably Juneau's expert on bio-identical hormones (the topic of one of my books) but I cannot dispense them here because of a ridiculously arcane law.

My skill set is being wasted while the public craves access to the healthcare modality of their choice. Alaska's medical insurers (all of them except Medicare and Medicaid) list NDs on their rosters as primary care doctors because we do good work. We are well educated. We listen to our patients and we aim to cure them — not get them hooked on drugs. Insurers are excellent at assessing risk, and they know NDs provide fantastic value.

You can help by scheduling a hearing of HB 236 ASAP. It is a modest bill that slightly updates our scope of practice, which is long overdue. Kevin Jardell and the ASMA crew will try to tell you NDs are dangerous and poorly educated. Please see <http://naturopathicstandards.org/naturopathic-medical-education-a-comprehensive-curriculum/> to compare ND and MD education. Check out the difference between malpractice cases against NDs in the past 20 years (1, which was dismissed) versus cases against MDs. Let me know if I can supply any further documentation of the safety, efficacy and good value that Naturopathic physicians provide in communities all over the state. But we could be so much more useful! And new docs are not moving here despite excellent insurance reimbursement.

Thank you for your service.

Best wishes

Emily Kane ND

Juneau AK

www.DrEmilyKane.com
www.naturopathic.org
www.primarydoctor.org

Join with me in
Cultivating Exuberance

From: Julianna
To: [Rep. Sam Kito](#)
Subject: HB 326
Date: Wednesday, February 21, 2018 2:23:38 PM

Hello Rep Kito,

I understand that HB 326 concerning the licensing of naturopaths is waiting to be scheduled in the Labor and Commerce committee. I am one of your constituents who regularly uses a local naturopathic doctor as my primary physician. Dr Emily Kane has been my physician for about 25 years and I love her choices of non-invasive procedures and her methods of addressing underlying causes of disease rather than simply treating symptoms with drugs or surgery. I would very much like for her to be able to use her full set of skills while caring for me in a natural way. It is very frustrating to find that my physician of choice is unable to help me simply because the State of Alaska's licensing regulations does not allow her to use her considerable skills to heal.

I know that things are exceedingly busy in the legislature at this time, but please consider scheduling HB 326 for a hearing ASAP.

Thank you for your time, and for your service to the Alaskans in your district.

Julianna Humphreys

Sent from my iPad

Sent from my iPad

From: Kerry Howard
To: [Rep. Sam Kito](#)
Subject: HB 326
Date: Wednesday, February 21, 2018 7:01:02 AM

Dear Representative Kito: I am one of your constituents and I have benefited greatly from naturopathic care I have received in Juneau. I am seeking your support to hold a hearing on HB 326, which would allow naturopathic doctors in Alaska to practice the full suite of skills they are trained for. My visits with my naturopathic doctor are comprehensive and thorough. Unlike most MDs, my experience is that NDs spend extensive time with their patients to evaluate and treat them. My insurance company reimburses this service, which means I am getting more health care evaluation at less expense. All Alaskans appreciate and expect choice, regardless of their political affiliation. Please support this important legislation by scheduling a hearing in the L&C committee at your earliest convenience. Sincerely, Ms. Kerry Howard

From: Martin Niemi
To: [Rep. Sam Kito](#)
Subject: HB326
Date: Wednesday, February 21, 2018 4:39:35 AM

Rep. Kito: Please move HB326 along as quickly as possible. As a longtime patient of a Naturopathic Physician, here in Juneau, I can't say enough good things about my health care. Recently, I was diagnosed with Parkinson's. She was the one who first suspected Parkinson's. I am now under the care of four doctors, only one of whom is a Naturopath.. She is easily the best doctor I have and one of them is at the prestigious Virginia Mason Hospital in Seattle. This bill is necessary for Naturopathic Physicians to be able to use their full training. This is very important.

Thanks;

Martin Niemi
907-789-2064
cjniemi@gmail.com

From: Lily Pothier
To: [Rep. Sam Kito](#)
Subject: House Bill 326
Date: Tuesday, February 20, 2018 9:31:25 PM

Dear Representative Kito,

(and also, hi Sam, I hope you've been well!) I am writing to ask sincerely that you act to bring House Bill 326 into focus.

Naturopaths are an incredibly valuable asset to our state. NDs are particularly well suited to address health issues that fall outside the realm of traditional practice, which provides sufferering Alaskans with the medical expertise, validation, and treatment that they need for both physical and psychological well being.

NDs also specialize in prevention, which helps to drive down health care costs in the long run. Insurers cover NDs as primary care physicians, and the cost of a visit to a naturopath is lower than the cost of a visit to an MD and more time is spent with the patient. Broadening the scope of Naturopathy that can be practiced in Alaska is a huge win-win, saving the state money and improving our access to quality affordable health care.

Will you please schedule the hearing of HB 326 in your committee? I know you are incredibly busy and there are many bills awaiting hearing. HB 326 is so important, because modernizing the scope of naturopathic practice in Alaska will have a huge positive impact on health care and personal well being in our state!

Thank you so much for all you do on our behalf!

Sincerely,
Lily Pothier

--
Sha la la la

From: Sandy Williams
To: [Rep. Sam Kito](#)
Subject: please schedule the hearing of HB 326 in L&C.
Date: Wednesday, February 21, 2018 12:32:55 PM

Dear Representative Sam Kito,

I have been going to a Naturopath for 20 years in Juneau. When I first started going I had several health concerns. We first worked on cleaning up my digestive system. No drugs were used. And over the years my health stays in good order. I am now 72 and still climb all the ridges in Juneau.

Please let our Naturopaths practice to their full education and training. I wish my Doctor, yes Doctor, could perform minor office procedures, issue vitamins, minerals and non-controlled substance prescription medications.

My Doctor makes sure I do preventative things, exercise, yoga, walking, proper nutrients etc..

I feel this saves me money, saves Social Security money and this good State. Alaska naturopathic doctors have a more limited scope of practice than other health care providers in Alaska with equal or lesser training. I would like to see more naturopathic doctors throughout the State of Alaska.

Thank you in advance for your support of HB326. Please help Alaska move forward to being a better State in health care with Naturopaths.

From: Mary DeSmet
To: [Rep. Sam Kito](#)
Subject: Scheduling of HB326
Date: Thursday, February 22, 2018 11:57:17 AM

Dear Representative Kito:

I am writing to ask you to please schedule the hearing for HB326 in L&C committee. My husband and I appreciate the options we have in Juneau to be able to get most of our health care needs met through the use of naturopathic physicians. It is so frustrating for us as residents/voters of Alaska to find that naturopaths are treated as "less than" - through their scope of practice being limited - than naturopaths in any other state! Please allow this bill to be scheduled so that the voters of Alaska, my husband and myself included, feel like we are truly being represented. We want every opportunity for health care by the providers of our choice. We always feel well served by the time and caring naturopaths provide. Our philosophy for self care is the "wellness" approach - not masking symptoms.

Thank you for listening.

Kind Regards,

Mary DeSmet & Greg Burger
8760 Dudley Street
Juneau, AK 99801
789-3933

From: Linda Kruger
To: [Rep. Sam Kito](#)
Subject: HB 326
Date: Tuesday, February 20, 2018 8:28:46 PM

Please schedule the hearing for HB 326. I have always been a patient of naturopathic doctors and respect the care they provide. I have found them to be well trained professionals who have far more opportunities to practice in other states. My health insurance has always covered my naturopathic treatments and I think I get far better comprehensive whole-body care from my ND than I have experienced from most MDs I have seen.

This bill is very important!!! Please do what you can to move it forward.

Thanks so much.

(Also, I appreciate that you have worked for us and I'm hoping that you decide to continue to represent us....)

Sincerely,

Linda Kruger
PO Box 35012
Juneau 99803

March 6, 2018

To the members of the House Labor and Commerce Committee,

I urge you to support HB 326, which is the companion to SB 120. I am a licensed naturopathic doctor in the state of Alaska, but I am not currently working as a naturopath because Alaska does not allow naturopaths to prescribe non-controlled substances. I am, however, maintaining my license in hopes that one day Alaska will give naturopaths prescriptive rights, so we can provide primary care as we are trained. HB 326 directly fixes that scope of practice problem.

I earned a B.S in Human biology and then graduated from the 5-year naturopathic medical program at Bastyr University (Washington State), which is an accredited program. I passed the Naturopathic Physicians Licensing Exam (NPLEX part 1 and 2). I then completed a one year primary care residency at the Bastyr Center for Naturopathic Medicine in Seattle WA. I worked as a primary care doctor in Washington.

My family and I then moved to Alaska for my husband's job four years ago, and I was excited because Alaska had a scarcity of primary care doctors. As I researched Alaska's naturopathic laws, I was shocked that I could not continue providing primary care as I was trained. I have the education and training to be a primary care doctor in Alaska if the scope of practice for naturopathic doctors is expanded, as proposed by HB 326.

The current scope of practice for Naturopathic Doctors in Alaska is exceedingly restrictive and makes it extremely difficult to care for patients. While practicing in Washington, I could see a patient and diagnose them, for example, with a urinary tract infection. I would then write a prescription for an antibiotic to treat the infection. In Alaska, I can make a diagnosis for a urinary tract infection, but then I must send that person to another provider to get a prescription for antibiotics. Alaska's regulatory scheme creates unnecessary financial and time burdens for patients and providers. Albeit small, HB 326 would provide a necessary solution for this problem. In other words, this bill will help reduce health care costs in Alaska without any negative financial impacts to Alaska.

It is a well known that there is a severe shortage of primary care doctors—like naturopaths—in Alaska and that problem is projected to become worse in the years ahead. According to the Robert Gram Center Policy Studies in Family Medicine and Primary Care, Alaska will need to recruit 237 primary care doctors (a 40% increase) just to maintain current standards in the next 30 years. In a state that has an extreme shortage of doctors; naturopathic doctors can be part of the solution with this expansion of scope of practice. HB 326 will definitely decrease health care costs and increase health care access for Alaskan residents.

Currently, Alaska has an extremely broad scope of practice for nurse practitioners and physician assistants but the most restrictive scope of practice for naturopathic doctors. While I appreciate the broad scope of practice given to nurse practitioners and physician assistants, HB 326 will create parity for Naturopathic Doctors. Georgetown University is recognized as one of the leaders in Nurse Practitioner training. Their program is 19 months and has 44 credit hours (semesters) of classes and 650

hours of clinical work. The University of Washington Nurse Practitioner program is 3 years length and has 84 credit hours (quarters). The University of Washington Physician Assistant program is 2 years with 78 credit hours (quarters) plus some clinical hours. As a naturopathic doctor, I completed 330 credit hours (quarter) and 1,330 clinical hours to earn my degree. I would be happy to show you my transcript and course descriptions to show that accredited naturopathic schools exceed the requirements of nurse practitioners and physician assistants, including in advanced pharmacology and clinical management of drug therapy in addition to naturopathic remedies.

In closing, I believe the proposed amendments, especially in Sections 4 through 6, are reasonable and will provide naturopathic doctors the ability to prescribe the necessary drugs to make a difference for many Alaskans consistent with accredited naturopathic training and experience. Thank you for your time and your commitment to Alaska. I encourage you to support HB 326.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Emily Palmer, N.D." The signature is fluid and cursive, with "Emily" and "Palmer" connected, and "N.D." written in a smaller, more formal script to the right.

Emily Palmer, N.D.
6709 Marguerite St
Juneau, AK
eehars@yahoo.com

CC:

Rep. Kito, Representative.Sam.Kito@akleg.gov
Senator Egan, Senator.Dennis.Egan@akleg.gov

March 6, 2018

To: House - Labor & Commerce

From: Wayne Aderhold

Ref: Statement in support of HB 326 – Naturopaths

In 1993 I first discovered the benefits of naturopathic treatment combined with acupuncture and chiropractic for a severe low back injury while living temporarily in Hawaii ... and then felt lucky when I learned I could continue treatment in Alaska. I avoided unwanted and unnecessary surgery and pain meds though both were suggested for me by other practitioners. In 2002, I traveled to Arizona, for specialized naturopathic cancer treatment that was available there due to progressive healthcare thinking enshrined in the state constitution.

Now at age 68, I realize that healthcare choice is a top priority for me and that I've consciously chosen NDs and holistic medicine for my primary care due to both effectiveness and inherent safety. I've been testifying in support of both improving ND regulations and expanding ND scope of practice in Alaska since 2004.

I am ok with being asked to contribute my fair share toward the operation and maintenance of our great State ... even if it means giving up some or all of the "senior" benefits I now receive. Changes to "perks" are often justified by economic realities. On the other hand, I am definitely not ok with being artificially limited in my access to healthcare choice and freedom when there is no logical justification and I know what is available in other states.

During the 2011-2012 sessions and related bills for NDs (HB 266 & SB 175), I took the time to track and tabulate all testimony submitted (see attachment). My summary indicates that 106 of those submitted were "in support" and the remaining 11 were either neutral or unclear. This was the last time the public was significantly engaged in the process and the results were overwhelmingly "in support".

Citizens count on their Legislature to provide laws which will make the greatest choice in healthcare available to them. Regulation by peers is the most effective guarantee of safety – in this case a select group of qualified naturopathic physicians in a format similar to the self-governance of other healthcare professions. Please pass this bill out of committee and into law and let the free marketplace of informed consumers determine what they want for themselves.

Sincerely,



Wayne Aderhold
353 Grubstake Ave.
Homer, AK 99603

SB 175 / HB 266 testimony summary from BASIS records

total "in support" = 106
neutral/unclear = 11

date	name	pt, phys, other	testimony medium	bill	pro or con	contact info		
						address	phone	email
2/7/2012	Roxene Miller	pt	email-Egan	SB 175	pro	Douglas, AK	907-789-5105	rusrox@icalaska.net
2/7/2012	Anissa Berry-Frick	pt	email-Egan	"	pro	Juneau, AK	907-7523-7797	Backbogenen@apl.ce
2/6/2012	Birger Bastrup, DC	pt & chiropractor	email-Munoz	"	pro	Juneau, AK	907-463-5255	birtrn@juno.com
1/31/2012	Linda Kruger	pt (23yrs)	email-all	175&266	pro	Juneau, AK		uses ND's for family; refers pts to ND's
1/31/2012	Pamela Kennedy	pt-Dan Young (2 yrs)	email-all	175&266	pro	not given		23 yrs ND's; bp control off Rx
1/30/2012	Jean Kudyba (and Kris)	pts	email-all	175&266	pro	Chugiak, AK		pkennedy546@gmail.com
1/26/2012	Joanie Waller	pt (30yrs w ND's)	email-all	both	pro	Juneau, AK		leankudyba@yahoo.com
1/18/2012	Kerry Howard	pt-Emily Kane	email-all	266	pro	zip 99801		MD as primary; allopathic as 2nd
2/7/2012	Christine Niemi	self	testify-S L&C	175	pro	Douglas, AK		MD as primary
2/7/2012	C.W. Jasper ND	ND-AAMP	testify-S L&C	175	pro	Anchorage, AK		
2/7/2012	Don Habegar	Dir, Occ Lic	testify-S L&C	175	?	Juneau, AK		
2/7/2012	Seri McGuire	sponsor	present bill-S L&C	175	pro			
2/9/2012	Mary Miner ND	ND	testify-S L&C	175	pro	Fairbanks, AK		
2/9/2012	Madeleine Morrison	ND-AAMP	testify-S L&C	175	pro	Anchorage, AK		works with MD's
2/9/2012	Ward Hurlburt	DHSS-Chief	testify-S L&C	175	?	Anchorage, AK		concerned about expansion
2/9/2012	Mary Desmett	self-?pt	testify-S L&C	175	pro	Juneau, AK		uses MD & ND; freedom to choose
2/9/2012	C.W. Jasper ND	ND	testify-S L&C	175	pro			
2/9/2012	Mary Alice McKeen (ALU-Fed)	self - pt (and Judge)	testify-S L&C	175	pro			good testimony on legal aspects
2/9/2012	Martin Niemi	self- pt	testify-S L&C	175	pro			69yrs, Phys Ed & health teacher; ND primary; MD when needed
2/9/2012	Don Habegar	Dir, Occ Lic	comment	175	n/a	Juneau, AK		not aware of dept putting out notice
2/9/2012	Andy Harrington	Dept of Law	answer/legal	175	n/a	Anchorage, AK		explained 2008 licensing action & subpoenas to Rx; need to pass bill
2/9/2012	Seri Meyer	Senate	sponsor	175	pro	Juneau, AK		
2/9/2012	Chris Laing (and Tom)	30+ yr Alaskans	questioning DH	175	n/a			no notice of change; arbitrary & capricious
2/9/2012	David Newirth	ND	email	266	pro			ND-concerned about losing valuable tools
2/6/2012	Denise Trujillo	pt	email	266	pro			
2/7/2012	Dorothy Fry	pt?	email	266&175	pro	Butte, Ak		
2/7/2012	Emily (Adams) Menard	pt?	email	175 & 266	pro	Homer, AK	bluzin@bsacckukuk.com	wants choice; keep ND's hands untied
2/7/2012	Eric Goldwarg	pt	email	266&175	pro	Anchorage, AK	alemiidawn@gmail.com	freedom of choice
2/6/2012	Hope Salmon	pt	email	?	pro	(formerly) Anch, AK	eljolowatz@gmail.com	recent pt/ good results
2/7/2012	Ian Laing	pt	email	266 & 175	pro		salmon@mtaonline.net	experience with 3 ND's; all positive
2/3/2012	Jacqueline Vaughan	pt	email	266	pro		oneilj@me.com	uses ND for primary care
2/7/2012	Jenny Carroll	?pt	email	266 & 175	pro	Homer, AK	tcbay@gmail.com	MD's as primary care physicians
2/7/2012	Jennifer Richardson	?proponent	email	175 & 266	pro		lemeraimanager@gmail.com	support bills
2/7/2012	Marah Gotszik	pediatrician (MD)	email	266 & 175	pro	Seattle, WA	marah.gotszik@gmail.com	supports ND's; would like ins coverage so could use ND's for primary care
2/3/2012	MaryLou Auwries	pt	email	266	pro	Chugiak, AK	wmardm191@yahoo.com	MD's and ND's; doesn't like AMA & FDA
2/4/2012	Megan Bruce	pt	email	175&266	pro	(formerly) Juneau, AK	msgant@gmail.com	used Juneau ND for yrs
2/7/2012	Megan Kelly	pt	email	266&175	pro	Anchorage, AK	mkelv209@gmail.com	freedom of choice
2/7/2012	Melissa Drake	? pt	email	175	pro	Eagle River, AK	akindrake@gmail.com	freedom of choice

2/7/2012	Mark & Theresa Robl	?pts	email	266 & 175 pro	Homer, AK		rob1@icloud.com	
2/7/2012	Paul Dungan	?pt	email	266 & 175 pro	Homer, AK		icobv@gmail.com	freedom of choice
2/6/2012	Shawn Hatt Cohen	pt	email	266&175 pro			rscohien@alaska.net	prefers ND's over MD's; choice
2/2/2012	Martha Lee	pt	fax	266 pro	Box 536, Hoonah, AK			treated for vit deficiency; ND worked with MD; wants full range of options
1/26/2012	CW Jasper	ND	letter	266&175 pro	Anchorage, AK	907-258-5167		ND in favor; explains history of ND's in AK & current problem
1/31/2012	Sylvia Watson	pt (AK now; WA ex)	letter	266&175 pro	Juneau, AK			wants option to western medicine; ND's excel
2/17/2012	Angela Beplat	pt	email	266 pro	Soldotna, AK	907-250-7317	alinde@yahoo.com	uses both ND & MD with no conflict for 8 yrs
2/17/2012	Brigit Lenger	ND	email	266 pro	Anchorage, AK	907-561-2330	brigit_lenger@yahoo.com	mainain practice of fact 10 yrs; no expansion
2/16/2011	Ginger Scoggan	DNP, ANP	email	266 pro	Anchorage, AK	907-222-6970	drscoggan@manukahclinic.com	all practitioners (good testimony for crossing the aisles)
2/17/2012	Jennifer Fink	pt	email	266 & 175 pro	Anchorage, AK	907-301-9807	leinfink@ak.net	has switched to ND or primary care (from MD)
2/16/2011	Jenny Murray	pt	email	266 pro	Anderson, AK		murray@alaska.net	credits ND's with healing unsolvable probs
2/17/2012	Jocelyn Paine	pt	email	266 & 175 pro		907-276-8195	loelyn.paine@gc.net	using homeopathic med since 78-asthma cured
2/17/2012	Joy Steward	pt	email	266 pro	Homer, AK		joy.steward@omerfund.org	pt & family depend on ND's almost 100%
2/13/2012	Julia Rothman	pt (22yrs old)	email	266 pro			mydineisyourdancer@gmail.com	Type 1 diabetic 11yrs; MD has had limited benefit & now getting worse; ND tx showing signs of helping; intends to continue ND care
2/16/2012	Larry Emerton	pt	email	266 & 175 pro			lueremerton@hotmail.com	has "regular" doc - ND wants ND sic to continue
2/17/2011	Lori Laing	pt	email	266 pro			woopack@msaoline.net	
2/27/2012	Mitchelle Wilson Nordhoff	pt	email	266 pro	Anchorage, AK		mitchel@ak.net	needs B-12 shots, hormones, & ND tx for family
2/16/2012	Nadya Mitchener	pt?	email	175 & 266 pro	Anchorage, AK		nadyad@mail.com	wants options for doctors she trusts
2/17/2012	Barb Hendrickson (?)	pt	email / fax LIO	266 pro			barbhendrickson@robox.alaska.net	consumer; questioning why a system that has worked well for 15yrs is being questioned
2/17/2012	Jennifer Young	pt? / RN / PCCN	fax LIO	266 pro	Chugach, AK	907-688-7053		questions MD's involvement in ND business
2/17/2012	Wayne Aderhold	pt	fax LIO	266 pro	Homer, AK			ND's as primary care physicians; wants progressive medicine in AK; warns of ASWA involvement
2/17/2012	Daniel Young	ND & VP AAMP	fax LIO	266 pro	Eagle River, AK	907-694-5522		needed ND training & competence; acknowledged insufficiency of Statute - needs fixing; attempts to modernize law have been stonewalled; Alaskans will be hurt if bill fails
2/17/2012	Mary Lou Autwes	pt	fax LIO	266 pro	Chugach, AK	907-688-2483		drugs & antibiotics not compatible with her; tx with ND have been "a revelation"
2/17/2012	Jean Nalbadian	ND & Pres AAMP	fax LIO	266 pro	Anchorage, AK	907-770-6700		ensure continuation of current scope of practice since '86; failure to pass will shrink already limited scope
2/17/2012	Abby Laing	ND	fax LIO	266 pro	Anchorage, AK			In support; wanted to testify during hearing; requests protection for scope of practice
2/17/2012	Toriety Smith	ND	fax LIO	266 pro	Anchorage, AK	907-248-9764		wants to continue to provide safest forms of tx possible
2/17/2012	Madeleine Morrison (?)	ND	fax LIO	266 pro		907-632-5632		practicing here 15 yrs despite limited scope; education qualifies ND's to use med
2/17/2012	CW Jasper	ND	direct to Comm?	266 pro	Anchorage, AK			submitted list of example meds by NDs & compared to "top 50 drugs in US in 2011"
2/12/2012	Ann Fernandez	pt	email	266 pro			fernasan@artsalaska.net	wants freedom to choose ND's; ND made it possible to function in her job without drugs
2/8/2012	Cathy Gilard	pt?	email	175 & 266 pro	Anchorage, AK	907-243-3077	cgilard@kci.net	support
2/8/2012	Deborah Fields Cimmyotti	pt?	email	266 pro	Eagle River, AK	907-695-4841	dfIELDSdesign.com	freedom of choice
2/7/2012	Elaine & Dr. Chas Burgess	?	email	175 & 266 pro			elaines21@gmail.com	freedom of choice
2/7/2012	Jessica Roder	pt	email	266 & 175 pro	Anchorage, AK		idoverspire@gmail.com	safe practice; clean up law
2/8/2012	Jodi Oakes	pt	email	175 pro			idoli.oakes@gmail.com	freedom of choice
2/7/2012	John & Charlene Rodda	pts	email	175 pro			4ododa@myonline.net	18 yrs of excellent care
2/9/2012	Karen Koester	pt	email	266 pro			koester@yahoo.com	15 yrs of happy association with NDs
2/8/2012	Ken Blaylock	pts	email	266 pro	Palmer, AK	529-4853	semenblavoc@ak.net	ND tx for family; has free military care but pays out of pocket for ND
2/10/2012	Kirsten Nielsen ND	ND	email	266 pro	Fairbanks, AK	907-452-3600	kirsten.nilsen@baptist.edu	practicing in Alaska; ensure continuum of care for 26 yrs +
2/8/2012	Laura Inglima	pt	email	266 & 175 pro	Homer, AK		lurlima@KBSD.K12.ak.us	freedom of choice

2/8/2012	Linda Shattuck	pt	email	266 pro	House District 16	laziesris@mail.com	pt for several yrs; freedom of choice
2/8/2012	Lupita Alvarez	pt?	email	266 pro	Douglas, AK	lupita_alvarez@outlook.com	freedom of choice is a "right"; keep avail in AK
2/9/2012	Mary Lou Alulves	pts	email	266 pro	Chugiak, AK	wmandmlau@yahoo.com	Birchwood since '72; life depends on ND's due to allergies to drugs & antibiotics
2/12/2012	Monica Devine	pt?	email	266 pro	Eagle River, AK	monicadevine@mail.com	entitled to naturopathic care; crucial to health & well-being
2/15/2012	Nancy Sawyer	pt (cancer surv)	email	266 & 175 pro	Eagle River, AK	nancy.sawyer@bellsouth.net	grateful for ND's; NDs compliment MDs
2/7/2012	Nikki Geragotellis	pt?	email	266 & 175 pro	Homer, AK	nikkim.fry@hotmail.com	support
2/8/2012	Pamela Kennedy	pt?	email	266 pro	?	p kennedy546@gmail.com	support
2/9/2012	Valerie Adams	pts	email	266 pro	?	smada@kcnet.net	freedom of choice
2/13/2012	Sarah Bean	pt (28 yrs)	email	266 pro	Palmer, AK	907-746-1087 sarah@actontrans.com	uses ND for primary & secondary health care for 28 yrs in AK; wants more integration and continued progress
2/7/2012	Wayne Aderhold	pt	fax LIO	266 pro	Homer, AK		relies on ND for primary care for 19 yrs; right to choose standard of care received
2/9/2012	Ms. Kerry Howard	pt	fax LIO	266 pro	Juneau, AK		uses and wants closely; coordinated care between allopathic and naturopathic physicians; has benefitted from a variety of modes during a "particularly difficult" situation
Feb-12	Annette Pankowski	pts	fax LIO (Kenai)	266 & 175 pro *	Soldotna, AK	907-398-8792 *says "not" but case made if "for" - confused?	uses and wants closely; coordinated care between allopathic and naturopathic physicians; has benefitted from a variety of modes during a "particularly difficult" situation
2/29/2012	Julie Leary	pt	fax LIO ?	266 & 175 pro	Juneau, AK	907-789-7524	irked at CRG for not accepting scripts for tests from ND for her and her husband; wants freedom of choice
2/29/2012	Mary Minor	ND	fax LIO	266 pro	Fairbanks, AK		wants freedom of choice from ND; wants to avoid ER, painkillers & surgery
2/29/2012	Dave Evans/NCMIC Ins Co	ins litigations consultant	fax of email	n/a	n/a DesMoines, IA	515-313-4500	20 yrs multi-disciplinary practice & now problems getting required medicines for pts; patients are suffering the loss; not a turf issue; refers to other practitioners outside scope of training
2/28/2012	Michele Zerbetz Scott	pt	email	266 pro	Ketchikan, AK (formerly Anch)	mmz@kounet.net	Co has provided prof liability ins for NDs in AK since 2001; during that time 1 claim against an insured - dismissed by Plaintiff
2/29/2012	Danielle Gabriel	pt	fax LIO ?	266 pro	Kenai, AK	907-283-2614	wants NDs to be able to prescribe and order tests; concerned that doctors are monopolizing; urges Legis to "stand up" for pts' right to choose own source of health care
2/8/2012	Rep C Munoz	Rep	testify- HL&C	266 pro	Juneau, AK		sponsor of legis - presented bill
2/8/2012	CW Jasper	ND	testify- HL&C	266 pro	Anchorage, AK		explain & answer q's
2/8/2012	Grace Davis	pt	testify- HL&C	266 pro	Tenakee Hot Springs, AK		85 yrs - 3 NDs in her lifetime; 1 in MT; 2 in Juneau
2/17/2012	Christopher Clark	staff-Munoz		266 pro	Juneau, AK		addressed legislative intent of bill
2/17/2012	Ward Hurlburt MD	chief DHSS	testify	266 ?	Anchorage, AK		spoke with CW Jasper about the bill; understands intent of bill is not to expand or change scope of ND practice, but clarify; "medicines" vs "drugs"; conflict may be due to "definitional semantics"; concerned bill may expand to allow "writing" prescriptions; and increase costs; no problem with intent to clarify since NDs have practiced since 1980s
2/17/2012	Kristin Cox ND	ND	testify	266 pro	Juneau, AK		gave her background in Juneau since 1985 but left to attend ND school; has practiced safely under current Statutes & regs for 10 yrs and provided safe, effective, and affordable care to over 564 pts; issues wrt NDs surround language & definition; NDs make less money but expect that; pts trust NDs to refer to others if needed; guarantees that increase access to ND health care will decrease health care costs & free up MDs for more seriously ill pts; in response to Q from Chair; could not answer "types of drugs prescriber;" but concerned with arbitrary nature of "legend" & mfrs disgression - whether it should require a script; Rep Holmes' interests frustration & desire to clearly determine what NDs can & cannot do - protection of livelihood; Rep Miller suggested pharmacists are at the root of interpretation issue now - sudden change; Chair stated intent to involve FDA in future mtg

	Mary Alice McKeen (ALJ-Fed)	pt (ALJ & atty)	testify	266	pro	Juneau, AK	
2/17/2012	Revecca Van De Water CNM	ANP	testify	266	pro	Juneau, AK	CNM who often refers pts to NDs as well as being a pt herself; stated hopes that this bill would make it abundantly clear what NDs can do since she relies on them to fill gaps of her own care. She will not work with things she is not trained to use
2/17/2012	Ashley May ND	ND	testify	266	pro	Fairbanks, AK	Has only practiced as ND ~5 yrs; has had a harder & harder time obtaining products she normally has been able to get
2/17/2012	Diane Coyer	pt?	testify	266	pro	Fairbanks, AK	as a pt, urged support for the bill
2/17/2012	Scott Luper ND	ND	testify	266	pro	Fairbanks, AK	Has practiced in AK since 2000; gave scenario of using sodium butyric acid for ulcerative colitis from Key Pharm. & usually stops bleeding in 1 or 2 wks; recently denied by pharmacy; often works with oncologist; in tx of cancer pts to mitigate effect of chemo; now more difficult to obtain IVs; urged passage & does not want to develop "a list" as medical science moves & shifts
2/17/2012	Bill Kelley MD	MD	testify	266	? Soldotna,AK	MD practicing allopathy in primary care in AK for 20 yrs; in his community, allopathic physicians have a greater deal of respect for NDs for the reasons just mentioned; suspects if MDs & NDs sat down to resolve there would be little dispute; 'devil in the details' semantics; could not offer solution; concern with example that Taxol could be prescribed by NDs due to origin.	MD in fam med for 15yrs; echoed Dr. Kelley's statements; great respect for complimentary medicine & open to pt having choice to select care best for them; noted out of scope work happens in allopathic practice also; suggested revise language to help protect pts
2/17/2012	Katy Sheridan MD	MD	testify	266	? Soldotna,AK	MD & Pres ASMA; concerned about the bill & health of Alaskans; potential for tremendous & irreversible impact on pt safety; not an issue of turf protection; referred to past ASMA testimony on differences in ND & MD training & clinical experience; goal of bill seems simple but is not as it seems; alluded to Dr. has some details pertaining to current prescriptive practices of some NDs; her belief is bill would expand prescriptive privileges beyond legal and nebulous limits; related discussions with pharma & what might be included; helpful to get a list of needs NDs wish to prescribe so ASMA could evaluate them; MDs she's consulted say B12, VFC, saline, calcium etc. 'would be just fine'; meds listed by FDA as prescription drugs would not; it has never been the intent of ASMA or AAP to shut down practices of NDs; but rather to clarify what is allowed and what is not. Enthusiastically supports having entity without it a conflict of interest make a distinction between list of prescription drugs and dietary & herbal supplements & over-the-counter homeopathic supplementation says Dr. is that entity; Rep Thompson inquired on # of lawsuits for NDs for miss prescriptions for 18 yrs & how many malpractice suits against NDs - Foland did not know;	Rep. Thompson inquired on # of lawsuits for NDs for miss prescriptions for 18 yrs & how many malpractice suits against NDs - Foland did not know;
2/17/2012	Jim Jordan	Exec Dir ASMA	testify	266	? Anchorage, AK	Exec Dir ASMA, suggested contacting ASMB for case info against physicians; unsure by committee - Foland said FDA; Jordan outlined 4 basic FDA categories; anything not a food that impacts the body is considered a drug (egged, over-the-counter/homeopathic, dietary supplement); no single definitive list; by FDA exists, but "orange book"; electronic list of approved drug products 32nd ed. 12/08 Regs; suggested this as a pathway to take, wants consistent def/s between statutes & Regs;	Exec Dir ASMA, suggested contacting ASMB for case info against physicians; unsure by committee - Foland said FDA; Jordan outlined 4 basic FDA categories; anything not a food that impacts the body is considered a drug (egged, over-the-counter/homeopathic, dietary supplement); no single definitive list; by FDA exists, but "orange book"; electronic list of approved drug products 32nd ed. 12/08 Regs; suggested this as a pathway to take, wants consistent def/s between statutes & Regs;

2/29/2012	Dan Young ND	ND	testify	266	pro	Chugach, AK
2/29/2012	Jane Madison	pt	testify	266	pro	Soldotna, AK
2/29/2012	Mary Miner ND	ND	testify	266	pro	Fairbanks, AK
2/29/2012	David Ottesen	pt	testify	266	pro	Juneau, AK
2/29/2012	Tim Peterson MD	MD & pt	testify	266	pro	Juneau, AK
2/29/2012						

5
total "in support" = 106

neutral/unclear = 11

From: Korie Hickel
To: [House Labor and Commerce](#)
Subject: HB 326 Personal Testimony
Date: Wednesday, March 7, 2018 4:31:20 PM

Hello,

I am writing to provide my personal testimony in support of HB 326, as it does not appear that the committee will get to that agenda item before I need to return to work at 4:30.

My husband and I are young professionals who returned to Alaska after leaving for school. We are healthy and active but have had a multitude of injuries and other health issues that have led us to many expensive and frustrating doctor visits over the last few years. I have a chronic condition that went undiagnosed for 8 years and severely impacted my quality of life. I saw 6 different doctors in Anchorage at that time, from primary care physicians to specialists, and they were unable to help me. They diagnosed me with various unrelated ailments that now seem ridiculous and prescribed a multitude of medications to manage the symptoms for the rest of my life. After hitting a low in the summer of 2016, I sought out a naturopathic doctor as a last resort. I was a supposedly healthy and active 28 year-old, and I was determined to find a better answer.

The naturopath was different from the beginning. She spent 90 minutes with me during my first appointment to hear about all of my symptoms and thus complete a comprehensive picture of my state of health. Over the course of the following months, she helped identify the root cause of my symptoms, and they all ended up being related! When I needed to see a specialist, I decided to go to an ND in Oregon. Her scope of practice was much broader. The practice was a one-stop-shop for my appointments, all of my tests, and the doctor was able to prescribe the necessary medications, which my doctor in Alaska is unable to do though she has the same training. On top of the convenience and excellent care, my visit to Portland was less expensive than one visit with each of the specialists that I had previously seen in Anchorage! Those same specialists of which one of made me and my husband wait over an hour past my appointment time to then spend 5 minutes with me in which they looked at my test results for the first time and gave me an incorrect diagnosis. I am still appalled at that treatment for which I paid \$600.

Now, with my diagnosis and personalized care, I am able to manage my condition and continue to do the activities that I love. I am taking less daily medications and have learned about natural substances that provide the same benefits with less side effects than other medicines I had been prescribed. All of this for the same price as other primary care providers in town. I have since sent all of my friends to my ND.

Due to this experience, I strongly support passage of HB 326. We need to increase access to better healthcare and decrease costs in this state. Naturopaths should be able to practice according to their level of training, which is much broader than currently allowed in Alaska. Please pass HB 326 and help out Alaska.

I would be happy to talk to any of my representatives about this further.

Respectfully,

Korie HICKEL

From: [Edric Carrillo](#)
To: [Caitlyn Ellis](#)
Subject: FW: Support HB326. Written testimony
Date: Friday, March 9, 2018 5:03:21 PM

From: Laura Bonner [<mailto:ljbonner@acsalaska.net>]

Sent: Friday, March 9, 2018 4:51 PM

To: Rep. Sam Kito <Rep.Sam.Kito@akleg.gov>

Cc: Laura Bonner <ljbonner@acsalaska.net>

Subject: Support HB326. Written testimony

Chairman Kito and members of House Labor and Commerce Committee:

I support the proposed HB 326. I am speaking for myself and my daughter. We both see a Naturopath for our primary physician. I support expanding what he can do for us and passing this bill will allow that.

Thank you for hearing this bill,

Laura Bonner
Anchorage, Alaska