

Keith Zeitlin HB 5537
37 Applewood Rd
Branford, CT 06405

March 12, 2014

Dear CT PHC Testimony,

Dear Senator Gerratana, Representative Johnson, and esteemed members of the Public Health Committee:

I write to ask you to strongly support and vote in the affirmative to add bill language for the modernization of the CT Naturopathic physician scope of practice to HB 5537. The language needs to be attached to this bill so it can come before the Public Health Committee for consideration. This Naturopathic scope of practice law is 90 years old and has not kept pace with the significant advances in education and training of Naturopathic doctors in the ensuing decades.

In the last 14 years of practice in the state of Connecticut I have had innumerable patients who have required prescriptive therapy for their immediate well being. The inability to prescribe even basic antibiotic therapies have endangered these patients and has required additional patient time and resources. Having been trained in pharmacology and drug/herbal/nutrient interaction, I am more than capable of determining which basic non-schedule pharmaceutical to use for specific disease states. I maintain a Washington State license which allows me to have a DEA number for schedule substances. In order to maintain that license I am required to maintain continuing pharmaceutical education. This safely and simply allows me to ensure a continued knowledge of prescriptive treatment for the safety and well being of my patients. It is a danger to public health that here in Connecticut I am able to diagnose conditions like acute Lyme disease or Streptococcal infection and am unable to prescribe the required treatment.

Thank you for your support and consideration.

Sincerely,
Keith Zeitlin