

Erica Watson
25 Lake Street
Ledyard, CT 06339
HB 5537

March 13, 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.

Thank you for considering this testimony. I was healed by naturopathic methods of treatment several times; once for a neuromuscular disorder, and then for an intense viral infection. Naturopathic medicine is what I used for my children to treat their ailments and concerns. My ND, Laura Munro, has trained extensively in the areas of allopathic knowledge and application; herbal remedies; musculoskeletal manipulation and healing; mental health support; and, "Eastern" medicine treatments. All of her training supports healthy bodies throughout our region.

We need more naturopaths in Connecticut, and we need for them to have access to treat patients in hospitals. It would be a tragedy to not have our citizens have treatment plans by naturopaths. Naturopathic physicians are physicians. We have physicians' assistants, nurse practitioners, D.O.s, and other practitioners in our hospitals and other medical facilities. It is time that we encourage a nation of well, independent patients who benefit from the healing touch and treatments of naturopaths.

Thank you

Thank you for your support and consideration.

Sincerely,
Erica Watson