

Michael Mendribil  
8 1/2 Howard Ave  
Norwalk, CT 06855  
HB 5537

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.

Naturopathic Doctors have helped me, my family and friends to improve our health, and they could do more provided they were allowed to practice as they are trained.

Expanding their scope of practice will improve our access to healthcare in Connecticut, save patients - and third party payers - time and money.

Naturopathic Medical training is rigorous, and expanding the scope of practice will enhance the education and training for medical students at the University of Bridgeport College of Naturopathic Medicine. This would help make the program more attractive to students and patients alike. Each year thousands of patients are treated at the UB Naturopathic Medical Clinic.

Lastly, this expansion is not new. Modernization of the scope of practice in other states has been successful, and safe. The record for prescribing naturopathic physician has been impeccable. Can't we make it consistent with Naturopathic Scopes across states, particularly those in New England.

So please support and vote YES to add bill language for the modernization of the CT Naturopathic Physician Scope of Practicde to HB 5537.

Thank you for your support and consideration.

Sincerely,  
Michael Mendribil