

For Bill No. 6797

I am a patient of a naturopathic physician. I believe in the naturopathic medical approach, and I prefer my ND, as well as other NDs, to have medication prescriptive authority consistent with their current training. I ask your support to allow naturopathic physicians (NDs) in Connecticut the same prescriptive authority consistent with many other states that license NDs.

Prescriptive authority would benefit me because I will have the best of both worlds--a natural medicine approach combined with conservative medication therapy when needed, both provided by my ND. This would allow consistent, uninterrupted medical care; and it would prevent my having to bounce back and forth between an MD and my ND. While many MDs are willing to work collaboratively with NDs, many are not; so I would be able to avoid this issue as well. NDs are comprehensively trained to utilize prescriptive medications when necessary. In fact, they have more prescriptive training than APRNs, who are currently allowed prescriptive authority in Connecticut.

Other states have allowed NDs prescriptive authority for years, so why not here in Connecticut? In the end, I would be better served if this bill were passed. I would have the ability to receive many, many more primary care services from my ND, who frankly, I trust more than an APRN. This would not only save me time, money, and hassle; but it would, I believe, also provide me with better health care.

Once again, I ask you to support Bill No. 6797 that would allow prescriptive authority to naturopathic physicians (NDs) in Connecticut.

Sincerely,

Louise Wessling
Niantic, Connecticut