

Good day,

My name is Angela Montanez and I wanted to share my very public testimony with you and show my support for bill (HB5534).

I ask you to support HB 5534 AN ACT CONCERNING THE PRACTICE OF NATUROPATHY. I firmly believe it is time to update the 90 year old scope of practice for CT Naturopathic physicians. An updated scope of practice for Naturopathic Physicians will provide many more primary care services and be a huge benefit to the citizens of CT. Other states that license Naturopathic physicians have allowed prescriptive drug authority for years and the overall safety record is excellent. Lastly, this modernized scope of practice will significantly support and strengthen the University of Bridgeport College of Naturopathic Medicine program which is the only one East of the Mississippi. The UB Naturopathic Medicine program will prosper and grow as a result of the passage of this law. Lastly, passage will allow the UB clinics that see 25+ thousand patients per year provide many more primary care services to the poor and needy that frequent those clinics.

I am such a huge proponent of naturopathic medicine. My journey has been long. In a nutshell, I was a child diagnosed with an autoimmune liver disease and virtually dying. I was a recipient of a wish from the Make-A-Wish foundation. Fast forward 25 years later and my liver disease progressed to Cirrhosis. I also have a twin sister--who lives in CT with her husband and daughter--and her autoimmune disease became active after having a child. I raced against the clock to find her a naturopath in her area of CT. In less than 3 weeks, I saw her inflammation markers go from being in the hundreds to normal. I knew that was my next step. I changed my diet and adopted a mostly plant-based diet and connected with my current naturopath, Dr. Ginger Nash, and dropped 120 pounds. I have a ton of energy and feel more aligned. I am passionate about Naturopathic medicine and believe updating the scope to which physicians can practice will benefit many currently and in years to come.

Please see links below for national media that I have been featured in and I attribute part of my success to Naturopathic Medicine and my Naturopathic Physician:

National Media:

abc News:

<http://abcnews.go.com/Lifestyle/jumpstart-2016-meet-women-lost-half-body-weight/story?id=36000436>

Good Morning America:

<http://abcnews.go.com/GMA/video/women-lost-half-body-weight-36006524>

Yahoo:

<https://gma.yahoo.com/jumpstart-2016-meet-two-women-lost-half-body-135150777.html>

E! News:

<http://app.criticalmention.com/app/#clip/view/18896182?token=13e5f1cb-dd90-41a5-b34a-fdf51bb8106c>

Inside Edition:

<http://app.criticalmention.com/app/#clip/view/18895894?token=13e5f1cb-dd90-41a5-b34a-fdf51bb8106c>

Yahoo:

<https://gma.yahoo.com/jumpstart-2016-meet-two-women-lost-half-body-135150777.html>

People Magazine:

<http://greatideas.people.com/2015/12/29/half-their-size-our-2016-weight-loss-winners/>

<http://greatideas.people.com/2015/12/30/half-their-size-candidates-reveal-worst-habits/>

All My Best!

Lead Wellness Creator

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