

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.

This bill **MUST** pass the Public Health Committee. If not the bill dies there. Please act now and continue to act as there is an open window that will close at some point if many, many of our voices are not heard.

I thank you for your efforts. Please act.

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