

*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 to and greatly benefit the citizens of CT. Other states that license Naturopathic physicians have allowed prescriptive drug authority for years and the overall safety record is excellent. In addition, this modernized scope of practice will significantly support and strengthen the University of Bridgeport College of Naturopathic Medicine program, the only such program 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 serve 25+ thousand patients per year, to provide many more primary care services to the poor and needy that frequent those clinics.*

*Just on a personal experience: for the last 6 months I have been hoarse. I had been to 2 ENTs, one gastrointestinal dr, lung dr and vocal coach and no one could figure out why I was hoarse. I was given loads of prescription medicine and none of it resolved my problem until I started working with a naturopathic dr. Naturally I have resolved the issue and my voice is back! I know we are not taught to heal ourselves naturally. I know we have all learned that if we take a pill all will be better but I did all of that and nothing worked. Please listen to what we all have to say and consider what we have asked of you guys.*

*Thanks for listening!*

*Kelly Ratner*

*New Canaan, CT*