

Dear Members of the Human Services Committee,

My name is Cori Randall, and I am a Nurse Practitioner who works full time in Ashley ND and also help out as a Nurse Practitioner in Crosby ND. I have been in the nursing field since 1999. I have a Master's Degree in Nursing Education, am a certified nurse practitioner, and am a Board Certified Emergency nurse. I currently provide services in clinic, hospital, nursing home, and the emergency room.

I am writing in opposition to SB 2274. Currently the Naturopathic continuing education for pharmacology does not equal what a nurse practitioner is required to complete to keep up competency in prescribing medications. Naturopathic providers in practice in North Dakota currently do not have experience with prescribing medications or continuous monitoring for side effects of these medications. It is highly concerning that they are requesting to prescribe blood products and chemotherapy agents without education specific to these products. I have had personal experiences working in the Emergency Room with patients who have used Naturopathic care in our state. To date I have received no documentation of treatments recommended for these patients by their Naturopathic provider. Many over the counter medications and supplements interfere with lifesaving medications. It makes it extremely difficult to provide treatment for these patients in the emergency setting without accurate information regarding treatments they are using. The Naturopathic providers have pointed out that they are looking to eliminate unnecessary additional healthcare expenses. From my experience I would counter that they are actually increasing healthcare expenses for the patients I have treated in the emergency room. I ask you to question whether a profession that is not interested in collaborating with other medical providers is really working in the best interests of patient care? Should they be given the enormous responsibility of prescribing medications with limited preparation and no current continuous pharmacology education process to ensure they are safely prescribing medications? As a provider I feel it is my duty to speak for my patient's safety. And I ask you to consider the safety of the people of North Dakota. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Cori Randall BCEN FNP-C