

Tessa Monzelowsky
SB 2274 – Naturopath Licensure
House Human Services Committee
March 23, 2021, 9:00 AM

Dear Chairman Weisz and members of the Human Services committee,

My name is Tessa Monzelowsky, I'm a daycare provider from Mandan. I want a YES on SB 2274 Naturopathic Bill.

I've been a patient of a Naturopath for 9 years. In early 2020, I had skin problems that my Naturopath instantly diagnosed as a fungal infection, and she said a prescription for Diflucan would be best to clear it. Since she is currently unable to prescribe in ND, she referred me back to a Medical Doctor. We thought it would be a simple visit to a Medical Doctor, but it wasn't simple.

I spent the next 8 months:

- had 7 face to face visits
- saw 5 different MD'S
- the 5th MD and 7th visit also included 2 follow up messages over 3 weeks
- had 2 topical steroids, 1 topical antibiotic, 2 oral steroids, 1 oral antibiotic, 1 topical antifungal/steroid, 1 antifungal shampoo (none of these worked)
- and finally I got a prescription for 200mg of fluconazole for 28 days.

Once I finally started the fluconazole the infection started clearing and was almost completely resolved. As I type this testimony I've been off this prescription and the fungal infection has returned. Had I been able to get the initial prescription on my visit with my Naturopath my fungal infection would've been taken care of. The fact that it took me so long doctoring with MD'S not only made the infection worse, but I'm going to have to go on another round of treatment to try and get rid of it. I've not only had the medical costs associated with 7 office visits and multiple other prescription attempts, but now because of the long term use of fluconazole I have additional cost for lab work to monitor my liver.

The patient care I received with my Naturopath would have saved me money, time, and from having this infection get so out of control.

Please vote YES on SB 2274, please.

Sincerely,

Tessa Monzelowsky
ND International Ambassador 2021