



We the People Petition

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Americans Tell White House to Support Naturopathic Medicine

Washington, D.C. (December 6, 2012) – More than 25,000 people have signed a petition on the White House web site requesting that the health care reform law include naturopathic physicians. The White House promises to provide an official response to any petition that meets the 25,000 signature threshold.



WE PETITION THE OBAMA ADMINISTRATION TO:

Include Licensed Naturopathic Physicians as primary care providers in the Federal Healthcare Law (Obamacare).

Licensed naturopathic physicians should play an integral part in patient access to alternative medicine within the Federal Healthcare Law (Obamacare) as they serve as primary care physicians within the complementary health care field.

With Americans spending over \$34 billion dollars spent annually on alternative medicine, the inclusion of licensed Naturopathic physicians would offer patients the option of seeking alternative medicine care covered by insurance AND provide access for those currently unable to afford care.

Licensed Naturopathic physicians are able to diagnose and treat both acute and chronic disease and are experts in nutrition, herbs, and other holistic therapies. Learn more about licensed Naturopathic physicians at <http://www.naturopathic.org>.

Created: Nov 07, 2012

Issues: Health Care, Regulatory Reform

[Learn about Petition Thresholds](#)

SIGNATURES NEEDED
BY DECEMBER 07, 2012
TO REACH GOAL OF
25,000

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TOTAL SIGNATURES
ON THIS PETITION

25,000

Specifically, the petition calls on the federal government to ensure that naturopathic physicians be considered primary care physicians under the health care reform law, known as the Affordable Care Act. Naturopathic physicians are trained to educate patients and encourage self-responsibility for health and are experts in managing and coordinating care.

According to Jud Richland, CEO of the American Association of Naturopathic Physicians, "The White House petition is just the latest evidence demonstrating the breadth and depth of support for naturopathic physicians that exists across the country. We believe President Obama shares this view, and we are looking forward to the White House's response affirming its support for unfettered

access to the safe and effective whole-person care that naturopathic physicians deliver."

If successfully implemented, the Affordable Care Act will increase access to licensed naturopathic physicians and make naturopathic care even more affordable.

Naturopathic physicians undergo rigorous medical schooling before they become licensed healthcare professionals. They attend four-year graduate-level programs at accredited institutions, where they are educated in the same biomedical sciences as allopathic physicians. For at least the final two years of their medical program, students intern in clinical settings under the close supervision of licensed professionals, learning various therapeutic modalities. NDs work in solo and group practices and in hospitals, clinics, and community health centers.

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The American Association of Naturopathic Physicians is a professional association that strives to make naturopathic medicine available to every American, and to increase recognition of naturopathic physicians as the identified authorities on natural medicine. Learn more at www.naturopathic.org. To find an ND in your area [click here](#).