**Email/letter examples to send to a CT legislator (Senator or House Representative)**asking them *to support providing prescriptive authority to ND's.* These examples are provided as a template. When you use them please add some language that makes it personal to you so the letters/emailsthat legislators receive do not all look the same.

**STUDENT VERSION**

Dear Senator or Representative XX,

My name is XX. I live in XX. I am a student at the University of Bridgeport, College of Naturopathic Medicine which is the only naturopathic medicine program east of the Mississippi.

*I write to ask your support to allow naturopathic physicians (NDs) the same prescriptive authority consistent with many other states that license NDs.*

Prescriptive authority would enable the University of Bridgeport, College of Naturopathic Medicine to more efficiently meet its educational mandate in training naturopathic physicians prepared for practice in any state. In addition, it would allow the NDs and student clinicians (under supervision) that work in the UB clinics to provide many more primary care services to the 20,000 underserved people seen annually in the *UB Clinics*.

I chose to be a naturopathic physician because or some other personal vignette…

The Connecticut law governing the practice of naturopathic medicine was passed 90 years ago and has failed to keep pace with advances made by other states. Prescriptive authority will update the Scope of Practice definition to be consistent with standards already legislated in many states that license NDs.

I would like to meet with you and discuss this issue or we can speak on the phone. Please let me know when you are available to meet or speak on the phone. **Enter your contact info.**

Once again, I ask you *to support providing prescriptive authority to naturopathic physicians (NDs)*.I look forward to hearing from you.

Thank you.

Sincerely

**PRACTICING ND VERSION**

Dear Senator or Representative XX,

My name is XX. I live in XX. I have practiced as a licensed naturopathic physician in CT for x years.

*I write to ask your support to allow naturopathic physicians (NDs) the same prescriptive authority consistent with many other states that license NDs.*

We seek to update and modernize the naturopathic medicine physician scope of practice so that we can better serve our patients and improve care. There is a major shortage of primary care providers, 20,000 short by 2020, just 5 years from now. NDs can treat and provide more primary care services to many of the individuals and families who are coming into the healthcare system due to the Affordable Care Act, as they do in many states, with this enhancement in scope.

Without prescriptive authority the status quo would continue, and the patient suffers. I can adequately diagnose a condition but *if the most prudent treatment is a prescribed medication* I have to refer which is inconvenient at best, it wastes time, delays treatment, increases costs, and duplicates services. This is highly burdensome and inefficient for the patient and the health care system.

The Connecticut law governing the practice of naturopathic medicine was passed 90 years ago and has failed to keep pace with advances made by other states. Prescriptive authority will update the Scope of Practice definition to be consistent with standards already legislated in many states that license NDs.

Add something personal………..

I would like to meet with you and discuss this issue or we can speak on the phone. Please let me know when you are available to meet or speak on the phone. **Enter your contact info.**

Once again, I ask you *to support providing prescriptive authority to naturopathic physicians (NDs).* I look forward to hearing from you.

Thank you

Sincerely

**PATIENT VERSION**

Dear Senator or Representative XX,

My name is XX. I live in XX. I am a patient of a naturopathic physician. I believe in and like the naturopathic medical approach and would like my ND, and other NDs, to have medication prescriptive authority consistent with their current training.

*I write to ask your support to allow naturopathic physicians (NDs) the same prescriptive authority consistent with many other states that license NDs.*

Prescriptive authority would benefit me because I will have the best of both worlds, a natural medicine approach combined with conservative medication therapy when needed, both from my ND. I would not have to bounce back and forth between an MD and my ND. While many MDs willing to work collaboratively with NDs, many are not, so I would be able to avoid that issue. NDs are comprehensively trained to utilize prescriptive medications when necessary and other states have had prescriptive authority for years so why not here?

In the end, I would be better served as I would have the ability to receive many more primary care services from my ND which I would very much appreciate as it saves me time, money, hassle and it is more efficient.

Add something personal………

I would like to meet with you and discuss this issue or we can speak on the phone. Please let me know when you are available to meet or speak on the phone. **Enter your contact info.**

Once again, I ask you *to support providing prescriptive authority to naturopathic physicians (NDs).* I look forward to hearing from you.

Thank you.

Sincerely