

HB1527, Favorable

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Good afternoon, members of the Health committee. My name is Elisa Morsch, and I am here today to urge your support for Bill #HB1527 and the right of Maryland's citizens to choose how they care for their health.

I receive decent health care from my primary care physician. Even so, I had limited success in improving certain aspects of my health by following my doctor's recommendations. For years I had ongoing GI issues, low energy, headaches, various aches and pains—especially in my knee following an accident—and I was unable to achieve what is medically considered a healthy weight for a woman my age.

My health issues often hindered my ability to carry out my work to the best of my ability and to accomplish the things I wanted or needed to do. It was not until I began multiple complementary and alternative health practices that my health turned around—and the results have been life-changing. The shooting pain in my knee is gone; my digestive system is working properly again; and I shed 45 pounds in a matter of months. My mind is clear, I have energy that I thought I might never have again, and I feel good about life.

I work full-time. In addition to that, I help manage our family farm, which requires hours of physical labor in the fields, and with the animals that include cattle, sheep, and chickens. I care for my elderly parents and I volunteer through my church and other community volunteer organizations. Complementary and alternative treatments have had a profound impact on my health and well-being and access to those treatments have had a positive impact that extends far beyond myself. I truly believe that those benefits ultimately benefit Maryland's citizens.

I want others to have the option to achieve the good health that I have through access to complementary and alternative health resources. Please support Bill #HB1527.