

House Health & Human Services

03/19/2024 Upon Adjournment

HB24-1005 Health Insurers Contract with Qualified Providers

Typed Text of Testimony Submitted

Name, Position, Representing	Typed Text of Testimony
<p>Haylie Petrick</p> <p>For</p> <p>Colorado Academy of Family Physicians</p>	<p>Thank you Chair Daugherty and Members of the House Health and Human Services Committee.</p> <p>My name is Dr. Haylie Petrick and when I graduate from the North Colorado Family Medicine Residency Program in June, I will be joining an independent, rural, family medicine practice in Montrose. I am testifying on behalf of the Colorado Academy of Family Physicians, which represents over 2,500 family physicians, residents, and students across our state.</p> <p>Roughly 30% of family physicians nationwide are independent, meaning that they are not majority owned by a hospital system, an insurance company, or a private equity firm. As a soon-to-be independent physician, I look forward to the work and the autonomy I will have. It will allow me to practice in the most evidence-based, ethical, and patient-centric way possible.</p> <p>I would like to comment on the amendment language regarding non-compete law: As I reviewed contracts from potential future employers this past year, every single one had a non-compete clause, including the offer I ultimately accepted in Montrose. If I am to ever leave this practice in Montrose I would have to look for another job over 60 miles away. Some non-compete clauses require even further distances. Practically speaking this would mean myself and my family would have to relocate, a rural community in Colorado would lose a primary care doctor, and my patients would have to find another doctor which could be disruptive to their care. Patients should be able to see their doctor regardless of what practice that physician is working at in the community. Other physicians and residents, like myself, should not be forced into a contract that prevents them from leaving one practice and working elsewhere in that same community.</p> <p>We thank Representative deGruy Kennedy for his work on this bill on behalf of independent physicians. The amendments brought forward in</p>

	<p>committee March 19th will improve patients' access to high quality health care.</p> <p>Thank you for your time and consideration of this bill.</p>
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