



February 13, 2018

The Honorable Debbie Dingell
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

RE: Support of H.Res. 721, expressing support for the designation of February 4, 2018, as National Cancer Prevention Day

Dear Representative Dingell:

On behalf of the Oncology Nursing Society (ONS), I write to thank you for introducing H.Res. 721, expressing support for the designation of February 4, 2018, as National Cancer Prevention Day.

As you know, cancer is the cause of nearly one out of every four deaths in the United States. In 2018, there will be an estimated 1,735,350 new cancer cases and 609,640 cancer deaths (American Cancer Society, 2018). Oncology nurses play a pivotal role in cancer screening, early detection, and prevention. Every day, oncology nurses see the pain and suffering caused by cancer and understand the physical, emotional, and financial challenges that people with cancer, and their families, face throughout the cancer care continuum.

ONS is a professional organization of over 39,000 registered nurses and other health care providers dedicated to excellence in patient care, education, research, and administration in oncology nursing. ONS members are a diverse group of professionals who represent a variety of roles, practice settings, and subspecialties. Our nurses are leaders in the health care arena, committed to continuous learning and leading the transformation of cancer treatment by advocating for high-quality care for our patients.

Please know that ONS and its members very much appreciate your leadership on the issue of cancer awareness. We stand ready to work with you and your staff to reduce and prevent suffering from cancer. We would be happy to discuss ways in which ONS may be of assistance in this endeavor, and would encourage you to contact Donna (Dede) Sweeney, ONS Director of Government Affairs, at dsweeney@ons.org. We look forward to engaging in an ongoing dialogue to address issues of importance to our cancer patients and ways in which we can promote public health.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Susan M. Schneider".

Susan Schneider, PhD, RN, AOCN®, FAAN
President
Oncology Nursing Society