



July 15, 2021

The Honorable Anna Eshoo
Chair,
Energy and Commerce Health Subcommittee
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Brett Guthrie
Ranking Member,
Energy and Commerce Health Subcommittee
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

RE: Support for H.R. 1550 — the *PREVENT HPV Cancers Act of 2021*

Dear Chairwoman Eshoo and Ranking Member Guthrie:

On behalf of the Oncology Nursing Society (ONS), which represents the interests of the 110,000 U.S. oncology nurses, I write to thank you for including the *PREVENT HPV Cancers Act of 2021* in today's House Energy & Commerce Health Subcommittee markup and urge your support of the legislation.

The American Cancer Society estimates approximately 35,000 Americans contract Human Papillomavirus (HPV) in our country every year. HPV can lead to six types of cancer later in life. Moreover, HPV is incredibly common, with 8 in 10 Americans getting it at some point in their lives. Thankfully, patients have access to a safe and effective vaccine to help prevent them from getting HPV and the cancers that it can cause. While this may be the case, more must be done to ensure that the public understands the benefits of vaccination for HPV.

As you are aware, H.R. 1550 would create a national CDC public awareness campaign targeted to communities with the lowest HPV vaccination rates, with the goal of increasing vaccinations and preventing HPV-associated cancers. This bill would also provide funding to enhance HPV cancer research at the National Cancer Institute, improve state immunization information systems, and expand CDC's Cervical Cancer Early Detection initiative.

Please know that ONS and its members very much appreciate the subcommittee's leadership on issues related to cancer awareness and prevention. 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 to the committee and would encourage you to contact Alec Stone, Director of Public Affairs, at astone@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,

The Oncology Nursing Society

CC: The Honorable Kathy Castor
The Honorable Kim Schrier