



August 16, 2021

The Honorable Mark DeSaulnier
503 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Buddy Carter
2432 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

RE: H.R. 4414, The Cancer Care Planning and Communications Act

Dear Representative DeSaulnier and Representative Carter:

On behalf of the Oncology Nursing Society (ONS), I write to thank you for introducing H.R. 4414, the *Cancer Care Planning and Communications Act* (CCPCA). This important legislation would improve provider-patient communication by enabling providers to bill Medicare for the time they spend developing comprehensive cancer care plans.

As you know, cancer is the cause of nearly one out of every four deaths in the United States. Every day, oncology nurses see the 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. By receiving the proper information at the time of cancer diagnosis, and throughout the treatment process into survivorship, this legislation would empower patients through shared decision-making and care coordination.

ONS represents the interests of the 110,000 U.S. oncology nurses 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 professional roles, practice settings, and subspecialty practice areas. Oncology nurses are leaders in the health care arena, committed to continuous learning and leading the transformation of cancer care by advocating for high-quality care for people with cancer.

Please know that ONS and its members very much appreciate your leadership in striving to improve cancer care. 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 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