April 3, 2023

The Honorable Larry Bucshon, M.D.
2313 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

RE:  H.R.1826, Prostate-Specific Antigen Screening for High-risk Insured Men (PSA Screening for HIM) Act

Dear Representative Bucshon:

On behalf of the Oncology Nursing Society (ONS), thank you for introducing H.R.1826, the PSA Screening for HIM Act. This critical legislation would expand access to prostate cancer screening by waiving deductibles, copayments, and coinsurances for individuals at high risk of developing prostate cancer.

As you know, one in eight men in the United States will be diagnosed with prostate cancer in their lifetimes, and a total of 288,300 new cases of prostate cancer are expected to be diagnosed in American men in 2023 alone. The PSA Screening for HIM Act will remove financial barriers to early detection by requiring private health insurance plans to cover preventive screenings for men at highest risk of prostate cancer without any cost-sharing requirement. Oncology nurses are the health professionals involved in the administration and monitoring of chemotherapy and managing the associated side effects cancer patients may experience. Every day, we 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 their diagnosis and treatment.

ONS represents the interests of the 110,000 US 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.

ONS and its members 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 Government Affairs and Advocacy, 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