



Oncology Nursing Society

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February 14, 2024

The Honorable Brett Guthrie
Chairman
Energy & Commerce Health Subcommittee
2434 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Anna Eshoo
Ranking Member
Energy & Commerce Health Subcommittee
272 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

RE: H.R. 3916, *Screening for Communities to Receive Early and Equitable Needed Services (SCREENS) for Cancer Act*

Dear Chairman Guthrie and Ranking Member Eshoo:

Oncology nurses are privileged to support people with cancer through the entire cancer experience, from diagnosis and treatment into survivorship or as they face their end-of-life journey. The mission of the Oncology Nursing Society is to lead the transformation of cancer care and promote excellence in oncology nursing and quality cancer care. As such, we write to thank you for including H.R. 3916, the *SCREENS for Cancer Act*, in the upcoming hearing hosted by the House Energy & Commerce Health Subcommittee. As you are aware, this critical legislation would reauthorize the lifesaving National Breast and Cervical Cancer Early Detection Program (NBCCEDP) through 2028.

An estimated 300,590 people in the United States will be diagnosed with breast cancer and nearly 44,000 will die from the disease in 2023 alone. An additional 11,500 new cases of cervical cancer are diagnosed each year across the nation, and approximately 4,000 women will die of this cancer. For more than 30 years, the NBCCEDP has provided timely access to breast and cervical cancer screening and diagnostic services for women who have low incomes and are uninsured and underserved. 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 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 advancing this proposal and would encourage you to contact Jaimie Vickery, ONS' Director of Government Affairs and Advocacy, at jvickery@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