



Oncology Nursing Society

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May 9, 2024

Representative Haley Stevens
2411 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Representative Stevens:

On behalf of its 35,000 members, the Oncology Nursing Society (ONS) is pleased to support H.R. 8330, the *Stop Nurse Shortages Act*. This important legislation would authorize a \$10 million/year grant program for nursing schools to create, expand, or support an accelerated nursing degree program.

As you know, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics projects 203,2000 average annual openings for registered nurses (RNs) between 2021 and 2031. Yet, in 2022, U.S. nursing schools turned away more than 78,000 qualified applicants from baccalaureate and graduate nursing programs due to insufficient number of faculty, clinical sites, and clinical preceptors. The Stop Nurse Shortages Act would help ensure a sufficient supply of qualified RNs by providing grants to nursing schools to hire and retain faculty and preceptors, increase the number of clinical training sites, and offer financial assistance to students.

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. Highly qualified and trained nurses are critical in the fight against cancer, and as such, we are pleased to support this bill to strengthen the nursing workforce.

Thank you for your dedication to fighting the national nurse shortage. For more information, please contact Jaimie Vickery, Director of Government Affairs and Advocacy for ONS, at healthpolicy@ons.org.

Sincerely,

The Oncology Nursing Society