



Oncology Nursing Society

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May 27, 2016

The Honorable Kelly Ayotte
144 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

RE: Support of S. 2941, the Women and Lung Cancer Research and Preventive Services Act of 2016

Dear Senator Ayotte:

On behalf of the Oncology Nursing Society (ONS), I write to thank you for introducing S. 2941, the Women and Lung Cancer Research and Preventive Services Act of 2016. S. 2941 recognizes the disparate impact of lung cancer on women and would help address the need for additional lung cancer research and preventive services.

As you know, lung cancer is the leading cause of cancer death among women. The National Cancer Institute estimates that in 2016, 71,600 women will die of lung cancer, more than the deaths from breast cancer, ovarian cancer, cervical cancer, and uterine cancer combined. 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 face throughout their diagnosis and treatment.

ONS is a professional organization of over 39,000 registered nurses and other health care providers 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 roles, practice settings, and subspecialties. Our nurses are leaders in the health care arena, committed to continuous learning and leading the transformation of cancer treatment by advocating for high-quality care. ONS members have been engaged in many areas of research to improve oncology care for their patients.

Please know that ONS and its members very much appreciate your leadership in support of lung cancer research 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 in this endeavor, and would encourage you to contact Alec Stone, MA, MPA, ONS Director of Health Policy, 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,

Susan Schneider, PhD, RN, AOCN®, FAAN
President
Oncology Nursing Society