



April 20, 2017

The Honorable Sheila Jackson Lee
2187 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

RE: Support of H.R. 1984, the Triple-Negative Breast Cancer Research and Education Act

Dear Representative Jackson Lee:

On behalf of the Oncology Nursing Society (ONS), I write to thank you for introducing H.R. 1984, the Triple-Negative Breast Cancer Research and Education Act

As you know, breast cancer accounts for 1 in 4 cancer diagnoses among women in this country. Triple-negative breast cancer tends to grow and spread more quickly than most other types of breast cancer, and most commonly affects African-American and Hispanic women. H.R. 1984 would close the research and education gap that exists regarding the prevalence and incidence of triple-negative breast cancer, the costs associated with treating triple-negative breast cancer, and the methods by which triple-negative breast cancer may be prevented or cured.

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 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. The growing demand for cancer care, from prevention to palliative care, requires oncology nurses to play a pivotal and increasingly important role in delivering high quality, safe, effective and efficient health care to people affected by, or at risk for, cancer.

Please know that ONS and its members very much appreciate your leadership on the issue of cancer research and education. 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,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Susan M. Schneider".

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