



Northwest Organization
of Nurse Executives

300 Elliott Avenue West
Suite 300
Seattle, WA 98119

Phone 206-285-0102
Fax 206-283-6122

May 18, 2015

Joint Committee On Ways and Means
Subcommittee on Human Services
900 Court St. NE
Salem Oregon 97301

Dear Co-chairs Bates and Nathanson,

I am writing this letter to communicate the full support that the Northwest Organization of Nurse Executives (NWONE) has for the initiation of a license surcharge for Oregon registered and licensed practical nurses to be used to provide financial support to the Oregon Center for Nursing (OCN). As you know NWONE, as part of the Oregon Nursing Leadership Collaboration, was one of the founders of the Oregon Center for Nursing. The decision to create a nursing center in Oregon was made consistent with a national movement that recognized the need for state based structures to address nursing workforce issues from a local perspective. These state based centers have become the hub for data collection relative to the status of the nursing workforce and to also influence both the educational systems and hiring entities that prepare and employ our nursing workforce such that the future health of all Oregonians can be secured.

The Oregon Center for Nursing has traditionally funded its operations through program revenue, government and foundational grants and individual donations. With recent changes in local economics and grant restrictions, this type of support is no longer sufficient to provide stability for the work of the Center for Nursing in Oregon.

NWONE has members in both Washington and Oregon. The state of Washington has successfully implemented a license surcharge that has provided financial stability for the Washington Center for Nursing. Because of the success of this model we are confident that a similar structure would be acceptable to the licensed nurses in Oregon and provide much needed support for the center for

nursing in Oregon. Please support OCN's efforts to establish a secure funding base to ensure its ability to provide quality data, resources and guidance to nursing workforce development in the state of Oregon for years to come.

Please feel free to contact me if I can provide any further information or support around this issue.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Gladys Campbell".

Gladys Campbell, RN, MSN, FAAN
CEO, NWOONE

CC: Mary Rita Hurley, Executive Director, OCN