

OCAP

OREGON COUNCIL OF ADN & PN PROGRAMS

Co-Chairs Alan Bates and Nancy Nathanson
Members of the SubCommittee
Joint Committee on Ways and Means Human Services SubCommittee
900 Court St., NE
Salem, OR 97301

May 18, 2015

The Oregon Council of ADN & PN Programs (OCAP) wrote a letter last fall to Ms. Bitton, the Executive Director of Oregon Center for Nursing (OCN) supporting the request to add a surcharge to the nursing licensure fee, SB 72. Please see below the letter that was originally written to Ms. Bitton, which provides the detail of why OCAP supports OCN.

Thank you,

Sandra Kellogg, RN MSN
Chemeketa Community College
Dean of Health Sciences
4000 Lancaster Dr. NE
Salem, OR 97305

Nov. 25th, 2014

Jana Bitton
Executive Director
Oregon Center for Nursing
5000 N. Willamette Boulevard
Portland, Oregon 97203-5798

Dear Ms. Bitton,

Thank you for attending the OCAP meeting on October 3rd of this year. We greatly appreciate hearing about all the changes at OCN. More importantly, we are excited that our concerns voiced at the meeting we had in spring of 2014 were heard.

Research and collaboration are very important to OCAP. We were pleased to see OCN hosting the recent Podcasts regarding Associate Degree Nursing programs in our state. We also recognize the value of the various nursing workforce surveys and reports that have been conducted in collaboration with OSBN. Finding out what is going on in the state becomes much easier with OCN's web based efforts to disseminate this valuable information. Last, we are pleased that OCN is encouraging the various nursing organizations to collaborate in their various efforts.

In regards for future research: OCAP would like to suggest an in-depth study regarding patient care outcomes, to learn if there is a significant difference in outcomes (e.g. length of stay, morbidity, mortality) when care is provided by the associate degree prepared nurse versus the baccalaureate prepared nurse. It would seem a variable that would need to be considered in such a study is whether or not the BSN prepared nurse had first earned an associate degree. A recent article printed in an Oregon newspaper continues to spark discussion within OCAP

about the question of the impact of a nurse's degree on patient outcomes. We recognize the daunting task of completing vibrant research and encouraging collaboration around the state. Due to the importance of carrying on this research regarding nursing in Oregon, OCAP does support the nursing licensure surcharge of \$9.00 per new license and renewal. We hope that your efforts to establish a surcharge are successful.

Sincerely,

Sandra Kellogg, RN, MSN
OCAP President 2014-2015
Chemeketa Community College
Dean of Health Sciences
4000 Lancaster Dr. NE
Salem, OR 97305