



December 6, 2016

The Honorable Michael McCaul  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

**RE: Support for H.R. 3381, the Childhood Cancer STAR Act**

Dear Representative McCaul:

On behalf of the Oncology Nursing Society (ONS), I write in support of H.R. 3381, the Childhood Cancer Survivorship, Treatment, Access and Research (STAR) Act of 2016. This legislation would improve efforts to identify and track childhood cancer incidences, improve the quality of life for childhood cancer survivors, ensure publicly accessible expanded access policies, and identify opportunities to expand the research of therapeutics necessary to treat the 15,780 children diagnosed with cancer in the U.S. every year.

As you know, cancer is the second leading cause of death in children. 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 children 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.

The Childhood Cancer STAR Act will support the advancement of pediatric cancer research and child-focused treatments, and we very much appreciate your dedication to young cancer patients and their families. 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](mailto:astone@ons.org).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Susan M. Schneider". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

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