



July 12, 2022

The Honorable Frank Pallone
Chair,
House Energy and Commerce Committee
2107 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Cathy McMorris Rodgers
Ranking Member,
House Energy and Commerce Committee
1035 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

RE: Support for the Lymphedema Treatment Act (H.R. 3630)

Dear Chairman Pallone and Ranking Member McMorris Rodgers:

On behalf of the Oncology Nursing Society (ONS), I write to thank you for considering the *Lymphedema Treatment Act* (H.R. 3630) during the committee's markup on July 13. ONS urges lawmakers to advance this important legislation, which would provide a technical correction to the Medicare statute and eliminate an unintended gap in coverage for Medicare beneficiaries suffering from lymphedema.

Lymphedema is a chronic condition affecting millions of Americans and is most often caused by cancer treatments that damage the body's lymph system or immune functions. Due to the painful swelling that results from lymphedema, compression therapy is an essential component of treatment. Despite being an ongoing necessity, compression supplies are not covered by Medicare, impacting two million Medicare beneficiaries who do not have equal access to them.

ONS represents the interests of the 110,000 US oncology nurses 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 professional roles, practice settings, and subspecialty practice areas. Oncology nurses are leaders in the health care arena, committed to continuous learning and leading the transformation of cancer care by advocating for high-quality care for people with cancer.

ONS and its members stand ready to work with you and your staff to ensure that this legislation in support of patients suffering from lymphedema is signed into law during the 117th Congress. If you have any questions, we encourage you to contact Alec Stone, Director of Public Affairs, at astone@ons.org. We look forward to continuing our engagement to address issues of importance to our cancer patients and ways in which we can promote public health.

Sincerely,

The Oncology Nursing Society