

ONA commits to finding solutions to the Nursing Faculty Shortage

Whereas, the nursing faculty shortage is leading to decreasing enrollment in nursing programs, which in turn, contributes to the nursing shortage. This will continue to put patients and communities at risk.

Whereas, the Oregon Nurses Association (ONA) recognizes and values the importance of quality nursing education and,

Whereas, the American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN) has reported that U.S. nursing schools turned away 75,029 qualified applicants in 2018 due to an insufficient number of faculty, clinical sites, classroom space, clinical preceptors, and budgetary constraints and,

Whereas, this data has been evaluated to show a national nurse faculty vacancy rate of 7.9% and,

Whereas, the Oregon Center for Nursing (OCN) reports faculty vacancy rates as 13% at the LPN education level, 7.4% at the AND level, 5.9% at the BSN level

Whereas, the OCN reports that one-half of Oregon's current nurse educators are expected to retire by 2025 and,

Whereas, nurses make up the largest segment of Oregon's licensed health care work force and,

Whereas, decreased enrollment in nursing educational programs directly impacts the nursing workforce shortages and,

Whereas, nursing shortages impact patient care in severe and adverse ways and,

Whereas, ONA's Strategic Vision and Mission includes advocating for patients. Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, that ONA will commit to engaging community partners in collaboration to explore statewide initiatives to address both the nurse faculty and RN shortages and, be it further

Resolved, that ONA will use its legislative power to advocate for increased compensation for nurse faculty and, be it further

Resolved, that ONA is introducing legislation and public policy to increase funding sources for loan forgiveness for nurse faculty and, be it further

Resolved, that ONA will work to facilitate development of education/practice partnerships and joint appointments and, be it further

Resolved, that ONA will re-engage with OCN and other coalition partners to explore creative solutions to address nurse faculty pay inequity.

Nursing Faculty Shortage 2018, AACN, retrieved from <https://www.aacnnursing.org/News-Information/Fact-Sheets/Nursing-Faculty-Shortage>

Schools of Nursing across the state are struggling to fill faculty positions, OCN, retrieved from https://oregoncenterfornursing.org/nurse_faculty/

<https://www.aacnnursing.org/News-Information/Nursing-Shortage-Resources/Impact>