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ONA CALLS FOR REINSTATEMENT OF WOMEN’S HEALTH CARE PROVISIONS

Hobby Lobby Court Decision Impedes Women’s Access to Care

Tualatin, OR – The Oregon Nurse’s Association (ONA) denounces today’s Supreme Court decision that denies some American women access to contraceptive health care. ONA asserts, and research shows that to achieve optimal health, women must be able to access high quality reproductive care.

ONA’s Executive Director Susan King, MS, RN, CEN, FAAN said “The Supreme Court’s decision disproportionately affects the health and well-being of some women and their families, and places women who may not be able to afford the additional expense of contraceptive care at a distinct disadvantage. Unintended pregnancies as well as complications for mother and child take an enormous toll on women and their families. They also carry economic consequences. Both outcomes have been ignored by the Supreme Court decision and by the employers who want to substitute their personal biases for responsible health choices.”

King added, “As our health care system is attempting to shift to a model of preventative care, one of the most effective methods of achieving optimal health is providing universal access to the very services that will be denied by this ruling.”

Director of ONA Professional Services Carl Brown, PhD, RN, AOCN®, FAAN, noted “Universal access to all aspects of health care will mean a healthier society because the focus will be on prevention – thus there will be lower mortality, better mental health, and less cost of health care while improving quality of the care provided.”

The ONA calls on the federal government to immediately provide a remedy, reinstating services for those women whose access will be denied.

ONA was founded in 1904 as the professional association for nurses in Oregon. It is a nonprofit association and a labor union representing registered nurses. ONA’s mission is to advocate for nursing and quality health care.

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