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RRMC Contract Successfully Ratified!

The contract ratification vote was held on August 7, 2014 in the South Lobby. Turn-out for the election was great and the contract was ratified by an overwhelming majority!

During the vote, nurses gave positive feedback and shared their appreciation

for the hard work of the negotiation team.

Your negotiation team would like to thank all the nurses who supported the negotiations. Your presence and support was invaluable in the success of these contract negotiations!

Protect Your License, Protect Yourself!

Should nurses and nursing students carry their own personal liability insurance policy? The answer is an unequivocal "yes". Unfortunately, a contrary opinion is apparently being voiced by employers, faculty and nurses themselves. You carry insurance to protect your home, your car and your health— why not your career?

Here are the reasons:

First, a common assumption is that my employer will cover any incident. Technically, an employer is responsible for the acts of its staff. However, the employer's interest is not necessarily consistent with protecting you individually. Should there be a lawsuit or threatened suit, your best protection is

to have your own personal legal representation. Your own attorney can prepare you for a deposition, represent you in a deposition and most importantly, represent you in any settlement and determination of fault.

Second, your employer's policy does not represent you in an Oregon State Board of Nursing (OSBN) investigation. In fact, it could be your employer who makes the complaint to the OSBN about an alleged violation of law. The OSBN must investigate each complaint it receives and even if the complaint is dismissed, there are costs to you.

The Oregon Nurses Association (ONA) recommends that all nurses obtain legal representation before responding to a letter from the OSBN related to a

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complaint. Most of the time, you are much more likely to receive a complaint from the OSBN than to be named in a lawsuit.

Third, you are always a nurse. You may render first aid or advise a family member or friend about a health problem. Should any incident arise about these acts, the only protection you have is your own personal insurance.

ONA urges you to obtain coverage from the Nurses Service Organization (NSO). For about \$100 you can protect yourself. For example, should you be the subject of an OSBN investigation, you have up to \$25,000 in coverage for attorney fees, travel and so on. For more information please go to <http://www.nso.com/>.

If you would like to discuss professional practice issues you may also call Susan King or Connie Miyao at the ONA office: 503-293-0011.

Unite for Nurse Lobby Day: February 10, 2015

Join ONA at the Oregon state Capitol in Salem on Tuesday, February 10 for ONA's 2015 Nurse Lobby Day. Every other year, nearly 300 nurses and nursing students from across the state gather during Nurse Lobby Day to meet with legislators and advocate for issues that are at the heart of nursing.

[Click Here to register for ONA's 2015 Lobby Day](#)

This year's Lobby Day will focus on the need to make improvements to Oregon's Nurse Staffing law that will

empower direct care nurses, enhance transparency and increase enforcement and accountability. These improvements will result in better conditions for both nurses and patients.

Join us at ONA's 2015 Lobby Day to help make the staffing changes we need to protect nurses and patients.

All active ONA and OSNA members are invited to join Lobby Day.



Bargaining Unit (BU) Chairs and Co-chairs*

Oregon Nurses Association (ONA) and the
Cabinet on Economic & General Welfare (E&GW) Cordially Invites
Bargaining Unit Chairs and Co-Chairs to Attend Our

2014 Bargaining Unit Leadership Conference

Online Registration is Open

Go to www.OregonRN.org for the most up-to-date information.

Questions? Please contact Linda Sidney at 503-293-0011 ext. 319
1-800-634-3552 (in Oregon only)

TOPICS (more to come)

1. Bargaining Unit Reports by BU chairs
2. Review Pending Staffing Law Revision
3. Luncheon Speaker: *Political - TBA*
4. Director, AFT Healthcare - Kelly Trautner, *Key report from AFT Healthcare*
5. Presentation by Gordon Lafer, Association Professor, Labor Education & Research Center (LERC): *Money, Politics and Anti-Union Measures*
6. More to come – stay tuned.

* If BU chair and co-chair are unable to attend, please assign one designee to represent your BU.

ONA Student Affiliate Members and other leaders may attend with prior approval.
Door prize drawings and many raffles will be held throughout this event.

