



American Association of Occupational Health Nurses, Inc.

330 N. Wabash Ave., Suite 2000, Chicago, IL 60611

Phone: 312-321-5173 | Fax: 312-673-6719

info@aaohn.org | www.aaohn.org

March 30, 2017

OSHA Docket Office
Docket No. OSHA-2016-0014
Technical Data Center
Room N-3653
OSHA
U.S. Department of Labor
200 Constitution Ave., NW
Washington, DC 20210

Dear Sir/Madam:

The American Association of Occupational Health Nurses would like to respond to the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) Request for Information (RFI) on *Prevention of Workplace Violence in Healthcare and Social Assistance* published in the *Federal Register* on December 7, 2016 [81 FR 88147].

The American Association of Occupational Health Nurses (AAOHN) is fully supportive of the creation of an OSHA Standard to address the serious issue of workplace violence (WPV) in the Healthcare and Social Assistance sector. Our members are at the forefront of providing care to injured workers, promoting well-being and protecting the health and safety of workers. We have seen first-hand the enormous financial, physical and emotional burden of workplace violence. Occupational Health Nurses work in every State in the Nation, and while there are some States with WPV prevention laws, we feel it would be irresponsible to leave this issue to the States, since there is no guarantee that all States will adopt WPV prevention laws in the future, and the numbers of workers injured annually by WPV continues to grow. We cannot allow this epidemic of violence against workers to go unchecked, and it is clear to us that a national standard is necessary. Our Organization stands ready to assist OSHA in the promulgation of this WPV standard, and we can be contacted at the address above.

The American Association of Occupational Health Nurses (AAOHN) is a 4,500 member professional association dedicated to advancing the health, safety, and productivity of domestic and global workforces by providing education, research, public policy, and practice resources for occupational and environmental health nurses throughout the United States and the world. These professionals are the largest group of health care providers serving the worksite. For more information, visit www.aaohn.org.

Signed,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Jeannie K. Tomlinson'. The signature is written in a cursive style.

Jeannie K. Tomlinson, MSN, RN, COHN-S, FAAOHN
AAOHN President