



American Association of Occupational Health Nurses, Inc.

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December 14th, 2017

Honorable R. Alexander Acosta – Secretary of Labor
Office of the Secretary
Department of Labor
200 Constitution Ave. NW
Washington DC 20210

Dear Secretary Acosta,

Representatives from our Legislative Affairs Advisory Group listened with great interest to your November 15, 2017 testimony before the House Committee on Education and the Workforce. Of particular interest was the question posed by Congressman Joe Courtney of Connecticut, regarding the issue of workplace violence in healthcare. Our organization, the American Association of Occupational Health Nurses (AAOHN), participated in the request for information and response, and the 2016 hearing held at OSHA on this topic. Our membership of nearly 4,000 occupational health nurses is directly involved with treating workers injured by workplace violence, and we are also actively involved in supporting prevention strategies. We share Congressman Courtney's concerns, and we were pleased to hear that you also consider this an important issue to address.

AAOHN would like to inquire what your thoughts are for continuing with the rulemaking process begun in 2016 for workplace violence prevention in the healthcare and social service sector. We also request a copy of any written response to Congressman Courtney's original question to share with our membership.

In addition, AAOHN would like to offer our expertise in Occupational Health Nursing to your office should the need arise.

Thank you for your consideration of our request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Mary Gene Ryan'. The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Mary Gene Ryan, MPH, RN, COHN-S/SM, CSP, FAAOHN
AAOHN President

The American Association of Occupational Health Nurses (AAOHN) is a 4,000-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.