



January 28, 2016

U.S. Representative John Conyers, Jr.  
2426 Rayburn HOB  
Washington, DC 20515

**Re: AORN Endorsement of H.R. 4266; *Nurse and Health Care Worker Protection Act***

Dear Representative Conyers:

The Association of periOperative Registered Nurses (AORN) is the national association representing the interests of over 160,000 perioperative registered nurses who manage, teach and practice perioperative nursing, a specialized area of nursing practice focused on safe patient care in the operating room.

AORN was delighted to see the re-introduction of H.R. 4266; *Nurse and Health Care Worker Protection Act*, and is thrilled to be endorsing this legislation.

Workplace safety is a very important issue for our 41,000 registered nurse members. Despite advances in technology, many of our perioperative nurses are still moving patients manually for surgical positioning, such as moving patients from a supine to a prone position. Perioperative nurses often experience injuries from these responsibilities, resulting in pain and time away from work, which strains hospital resources. An average workers' compensation claim for a hospital injury costs \$15,860 per event.

On behalf of AORN's board of directors and our 41,000 registered nurse members, thank you for sponsoring H.R. 4266. AORN will work with the American Nurses Association to show our support for this legislation. Should you have any questions or a need for specific action from our members, please feel free to contact me at (303) 755-6304 ext. 220.

Sincerely,

Linda K. Groah, MSN RN CNOR NEA-BC FAAN

CEO/Executive Director

Association of periOperative Registered Nurses

cc: Michelle Mitchell, ANA Senior Associate Director, Department of Government Affairs