

Murdo, Patricia

Subject: FW: Montana House Bill 525

From: TI HODSON
Sent: Monday, October 21, 2013 4:04 AM
To: Murdo, Patricia
Subject: Montana House Bill 525

Pat Murdo
Legislative Services Division
Helena, Montana

Dear Pat,

I have been made aware of Montana House Bill 525 which evaluates the necessity for existence of the Montana Board of Radiologic Technology.

As a Registered Radiologic Technologist I write asking you to consider the following when making your decision whether the Montana Board of Radiologic Technology is important and necessary towards the safety of our Montana public.

"My son fell and hurt his wrist"

Let's get an X-Ray and see what it looks like...

"My Mom's found a lump in her breast and our family has a history of breast cancer"

Let's start with a mammogram...

"I think my Grandpa had a stroke"

We'll get him right over to CT to see what's going on...

"They said Dad was having a heart attack"

We put in two stents which means no surgery...

Oh how often we the public trust the Physician when our loved one is in a health crisis and how often does that Physician (and we) trust that the procedure he's ordering is being performed by a competent health care giver. Did you know that the Radiologic Technologist is the 3rd largest category of healthcare professionals surpassed only by nurses and physicians?

Undisputedly, the use of X-rays in the medical field for the diagnosing and treatment of injury and sickness is of vital importance when it is used properly. When not, radiation sickness, mutations, cancer and even death may occur.

To ensure the safety of our public receiving any care involving the administration of X-rays, the profession of Registered Radiologic Technologist was created. That individual is class room and clinically educated by nationally set standards. They have passed the appropriate exam for their specialty and sub specialty as set by national standards. They meet necessary ethics requirements as set by national standards and they must prove of continuing education and ongoing compliance with national standards through annual recertification.

As you can see Radiologic Technology clearly is a specialized scope of practice identifiable and distinguished from the scope of practice of other medical professions and occupations. For the safety of the general public, it is absolutely necessary that only a qualified, registered and licensed Radiologic Technologist provide the necessary medical imaging and treatment on our Montana public. Licensure and the qualifications it stands for are necessary, justified, and imperative in this occupation.

That's where the Montana Board of Radiologic Technologists comes in. They protect the health, safety and well being of our Montana citizens by providing a number of services. They evaluate each request to practice X-Ray Technology and determine if that individual is fit to practice by ensuring that all their education and testing requirements are met prior to licensing. They alone issue licenses to competent X-ray professionals. They regulate our practice to promote the delivery of quality health care and take appropriate action for unprofessional, incompetent, or unlawful practices by any Radiologic Technologist. They also protect our profession by taking appropriate action if finding any individual practicing Radiologic Technology without a license.

No need to tell you that we are in the midst of a rapidly changing health care environment with Medical Imaging and Radiation Therapy evolving at a rapid pace. Physician Providers require increased quality and safety in the diagnosis and treatment of their patients. The Montana Board of Radiologic Technologists remains necessary for our Montana providers and public seeking assurance that their radiologic health care will be delivered safely and diagnostically.

Thank you for your time,

Ti Hodson RT(R) RCIS
Billings, Montana 59105