

HB 7163

Good morning.

My name is Elaine Lisitano. I am a radiographer and an educator and have been employed in the field of radiology for 40 years. I am also a member of the Connecticut Society of Radiologic Technologists, which is the only State wide organization representing radiographers and am co-chair of the CSRT Legislative Committee.

As a board member of CSRT, I am here to support word changes to the Radiographer license law (Chapter 376c) which are being recommended in the Public Health bill, HB 7163.

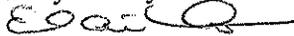
When the radiographer license bill was first presented and passed in the early 1990's, most radiographers worked in hospitals. While private offices did employ radiographers, they basically performed every day, simple, diagnostic procedures. However, with time, many hospitals (and offices) have grown to include off-site independent facilities, with walk-in clinics for emergency work and even out patient surgical suites. In addition, most of these facilities support new equipment and the latest technical equipment. With advanced technology, procedures are more involved and many facilities offer advanced services, including CT scans and MR exams. Many of these studies require that technologists administer some type of dye or contrast to see anatomy and pathology better.

Wording in our license at this time specifically states that performing venipuncture to administer medication is allowed "in any hospital". We have worked with the Department of Public Health and feel that the wording "in any hospital" should be deleted, since many other types of facilities use and service patients with x-ray exams and equipment.

In addition, JACHO is now categorizing all diagnostic imaging contrast as medication. This not only includes intravenous contrast which must be performed using venipuncture techniques, but includes oral and rectal contrast as well (barium). With these proposed changes in wording, any Connecticut licensed radiographer who administers contrast would be certain that they are acting within the Connecticut State law and are also in compliance with JACHO standards.

As an educator, I can assure you that all licensed technologists who have gone through approved radiography programs have been educated and trained in venipuncture technique and the administration of all contrast. Our national accrediting body demands that students prove these competencies before graduation. Both the American Society of Radiologic Technologists and American Registry of Radiologic Technologists support this training as part of a Radiologic Technologist's Scope of Practice.

Thank you for your time and consideration



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