



RADIOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF CONNECTICUT, INC.
A CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN COLLEGE OF RADIOLOGY

Statement of the
Radiological Society of Connecticut
in support of
Senate Bill 10
Insurance and Real Estate Committee

February 3, 2011

Sen. Crisco, Rep. Megna and members of the committee:

My name is Dr. Marc Glickstein. I am a Medical Doctor, practice the subspecialty of Radiology and am representing the 400 members of the Radiological Society of Connecticut today in support of Senate Bill 10, *An Act Concerning Insurance Coverage for Breast Magnetic Resonance Imaging*.

The RSC is delighted to support this legislation. It is a natural progression of the steps you've taken in recent years to increase the knowledge of, and access to, imaging tests that detect breast cancer, particularly for women who have dense, fatty breast tissue.

SB 10 would add Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) to the list of procedures covered by the law. It is a good addition.

Many of our members are breast imagers who are highly committed to discovering even the smallest of cancers in their patients through state-of-the-art imagery. The technology to do this continues to develop rapidly. Mammograms are now considered to be a baseline procedure. More detailed tests are now available that can add to the detection of cancers through the use of MRI or Breast Ultrasound (BUS).

There is no doubt about the utility of these additional procedures. The ACRIN 6666 trials show that a breast ultrasound does find cancers that were not spotted by a mammogram—particularly for women who have dense or heterogeneously dense breast tissue. The flip side is that ultrasound is such a sensitive technology that it can find a problem that leads to a biopsy and turns out to be nothing serious. We call that a “false positive” examination.

RSC believes that women should know about all of the options that are available in the way of safe and effective breast examinations. MRI plays an important role in this regard. So important that the state has had a law on the books for several years now that requires all MRI equipment to be accredited and meet safety and health standards. That's a good thing. We would like to suggest that you take this provision (Sec. 19a-690) and extend it to Ultrasound equipment also.

Connecticut's Radiologists are among the finest in the nation. They take their responsibility for patient care very seriously and are constantly adapting to the latest technologies that improve the chance of earlier detection of breast cancer. Senate Bill 10 will help in this regard and, on behalf of the Radiological Society of Connecticut, we are delighted to support it. Thank you.