

Dear Public Health Committee Members:

Most Connecticut residents would assume that the person performing a nuclear medicine scan or therapy treatment is a competent professional. However, inadequately trained personnel are allowed perform these diagnostic scans and therapeutic treatments in Connecticut due to the lack of licensure for nuclear medicine technologists. It is amazing to me that hair stylists and manicurists must be licensed, but anyone in Connecticut can inject patients with liquid radioactivity. This poses a risk to patients because an improperly performed procedure can lead to a misdiagnosis or delay in treatment. Poorly trained personnel may also have a higher risk of administering the incorrect type and/or amount of radioactivity.

My hope is that licensure of nuclear medicine technologists in Connecticut would require that licensees graduate from a program that is accredited by the Joint Review Committee on Educational Programs in Nuclear Medicine Technology (www.jrcnmt.org). I would also hope that licensees would be required to successfully pass the Nuclear Medicine Technology Certification Board (www.nmtcb.org) or the nuclear medicine technology exam offered by the American Registry of Radiologic Technologists (www.arrt.org).

Passage of this bill will result in enhanced safety and higher quality nuclear medicine scans and therapy treatments in the state of Connecticut. Our residents deserve the best care possible. The enactment of this bill would have a minimal financial impact on nuclear medicine technologists and on the budget of the state of Connecticut. As a certified and registered nuclear medicine technologist, and a resident of the state of Connecticut, I fully support the licensure of nuclear medicine technologists in our state. I regret that I am unable to attend the public hearing due to an important meeting at work. Please contact me if you have any questions for me regarding this very important matter.

Sincerely,

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