

Oregon Society of Radiologic Technologists

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House Committee on Health Care State Capitol Building 900 Court Street NE, H-493 Salem, OR 97301

To the Committee on Health Care:

I am writing this letter on behalf of the Oregon Society of Radiologic Technologists and also as an educator in Radiologic Sciences. I am addressing our concerns about HB 2880, which is proposing that Physician Assistants (PA) be allowed to perform fluoroscopy procedures.

Fluoroscopy procedures result in higher doses of radiation to the patient as opposed to standard x-ray images. Unless a Physician Assistant has had radiography education in their background, they are not as knowledgeable as the Radiologist Assistant (RA) who has extensive education in radiation use, safety and protection.

Radiologists assist in the training of RAs and enforce the appropriate use of equipment, positioning of the patient for the desired image with the least amount of exposure and radiation protection for the patient and operator. These skills cannot be attained in an abbreviated course or limited training session.

Radiation safety is clearly a concern with this proposal and the OSRT opposes this bill. We urge you to reconsider this proposal and make patient safety your concern along with all radiography professionals.

Respectfully,

Virginia Vanderford, Med., R.T. (R) (M) President, Oregon Society of Radiologic Technologists Director of Medical Imaging Programs – Portland Community College