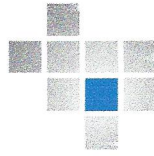


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February 15, 2019

Chairwoman Monnes-Anderson and Committee Members,

I am a practicing radiologist in the southern Oregon region, board certified in diagnostic radiology with additional certification of qualification in Neuroradiology. I am very fortunate to serve the patients of southern Oregon with the Medford Radiology Group, which provides outstanding diagnostic and interventional radiology care, a large portion of which includes fluoroscopic imaging.

I have been made aware that you are considering approval of Senate Bill 128, which permits fluoroscopy supervision to advanced practice registered nurses. While the bill may have good intentions, I am concerned that placing fluoroscopy in the hands of practitioners without proper residency and fellowship training will result in higher radiation exposure to patients and will lower the standard of care of radiology practice.

Radiology training alone is at least 4 years, a significant portion of which involves learning about radiology physics and radiation safety with respect to the various diagnostic imaging devices, like CT, Xray, Nuclear Medicine and Fluoroscopy. The goal is to learn how to use enough radiation to achieve diagnostic quality studies, without using too much radiation which could harm the patient by causing skin burns or increasing the risk of cancer. As a potential patient or someone close to a patient, but certainly as a law maker representing your district, I am sure you share my concern.

The FDA has recognized the risk of radiation exposure when using fluoroscopy as summarized in its white paper "Initiative to Reduce Radiation Unnecessary Exposure from Medical Imaging." (1)

Moreover, the National Council on Radiation Protection and Measurements (NCRP) has established specific recommendations for facilities performing fluoroscopy which include "Assuring that physicians performing fluoroscopic procedures are appropriately trained and credentialed, so they can, on a case-by-case basis, assess risks and benefits for individual patients..." (2)

I respectfully ask that you not support passage of SB 128 and therefore ensure a higher safety and standard of care and reduce the risk of radiation injury to the patients of Oregon. Your constituents deserve the most appropriate, highest quality, and safest fluoroscopic imaging. Should you like to speak to me further about my concerns on this topic, please do not hesitate to reach out.

Sincerely,



Joe A. Pastrano, MD
President, Medford Radiology Group

<https://www.fda.gov/Radiation-emittingProducts/RadiationSafety/RadiationDoseReduction/ucm199994.htm>

<https://www.fda.gov/Radiation-emittingProducts/RadiationEmittingProductsandProcedures/MedicalImaging/MedicalX-Rays/ucm115354.htm>

