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**SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5880**

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**State of Washington**

**68th Legislature**

**2024 Regular Session**

**By** Senate Health & Long Term Care (originally sponsored by Senator Muzzall)

1 AN ACT Relating to establishing a primary certification process  
2 for magnetic resonance imaging technologists; amending RCW 18.84.080,  
3 18.84.030, and 18.84.130; and reenacting and amending RCW 18.84.020.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

5 **Sec. 1.** RCW 18.84.020 and 2010 c 92 s 1 are each reenacted and  
6 amended to read as follows:

7 The definitions in this section apply throughout this chapter  
8 unless the context clearly requires otherwise.

9 (1) "Approved cardiovascular invasive specialist program" or  
10 "approved radiologist assistant program" means a school approved by  
11 the secretary. The secretary may recognize other organizations that  
12 establish standards for radiologist assistant programs or  
13 cardiovascular invasive specialist programs and designate schools  
14 that meet the organization's standards as approved.

15 (2) "Approved school of radiologic technology" means a school of  
16 radiologic technology, cardiovascular invasive specialist program, or  
17 radiologist assistant program approved by the secretary or a school  
18 found to maintain the equivalent of such a course of study as  
19 determined by the department. Such school may be operated by a  
20 medical or educational institution, and for the purpose of providing

1 any requisite clinical experience, shall be affiliated with one or  
2 more general hospitals.

3 (3) "Cardiac or vascular catheterization" means all anatomic or  
4 physiological studies of intervention in which the heart, coronary  
5 arteries, or vascular system are entered via a systemic vein or  
6 artery using a catheter that is manipulated under fluoroscopic  
7 visualization.

8 (4) "Department" means the department of health.

9 (5) "Licensed practitioner" means any licensed health care  
10 practitioner performing services within the person's authorized scope  
11 of practice.

12 (6) "Nonionizing radiation" includes radiation such as  
13 radiofrequency or microwaves, visible, infrared, or ultraviolet light  
14 or ultrasound.

15 (7) "Radiologic technologist" means an individual certified under  
16 this chapter, other than a licensed practitioner, who practices  
17 radiologic technology as a:

18 (a) Diagnostic radiologic technologist, who is a person who  
19 actually handles X-ray equipment in the process of applying radiation  
20 on a human being for diagnostic purposes at the direction of a  
21 licensed practitioner, this includes parenteral procedures related to  
22 radiologic technology when performed under the direct supervision of  
23 a physician licensed under chapter 18.71 or 18.57 RCW;

24 (b) Therapeutic radiologic technologist, who is a person who uses  
25 radiation-generating equipment for therapeutic purposes on human  
26 subjects at the direction of a licensed practitioner, this includes  
27 parenteral procedures related to radiologic technology when performed  
28 under the direct supervision of a physician licensed under chapter  
29 18.71 or 18.57 RCW;

30 (c) Magnetic resonance imaging technologist, who is a person who  
31 uses a nonionizing radiation process on a human being by which  
32 certain nuclei, when placed in a magnetic field, absorb and release  
33 energy in the form of radio waves that are analyzed by a computer  
34 thereby producing an image of human anatomy and physiological  
35 information, at the direction of a licensed practitioner, this  
36 includes parenteral procedures related to radiologic technology when  
37 performed under the direct supervision of a physician licensed under  
38 chapter 18.71 or 18.57 RCW.

39 (d) Nuclear medicine technologist, who is a person who prepares  
40 radiopharmaceuticals and administers them to human beings for

1 diagnostic and therapeutic purposes and who performs in vivo and in  
2 vitro detection and measurement of radioactivity for medical purposes  
3 at the direction of a licensed practitioner;

4 ~~((d))~~ (e) Radiologist assistant, who is an advanced-level  
5 certified diagnostic radiologic technologist who assists radiologists  
6 by performing advanced diagnostic imaging procedures as determined by  
7 rule under levels of supervision defined by the secretary, this  
8 includes but is not limited to enteral and parenteral procedures when  
9 performed under the direction of the supervising radiologist, and  
10 that these procedures may include injecting diagnostic agents to  
11 sites other than intravenous, performing diagnostic aspirations and  
12 localizations, and assisting radiologists with other invasive  
13 procedures; or

14 ~~((e))~~ (f) Cardiovascular invasive specialist, who is a person  
15 who assists in cardiac or vascular catheterization procedures under  
16 the personal supervision of a physician licensed under chapter 18.71  
17 or 18.57 RCW. This includes parenteral procedures related to cardiac  
18 or vascular catheterization including, but not limited to, parenteral  
19 procedures involving arteries and veins.

20 ~~((7))~~ (8) "Radiologic technology" means the use of ionizing or  
21 nonionizing radiation upon a human being for diagnostic or  
22 therapeutic purposes.

23 ~~((8))~~ (9) "Radiologist" means a physician certified by the  
24 American board of radiology or the American osteopathic board of  
25 radiology.

26 ~~((9))~~ (10) "Registered X-ray technician" means a person who is  
27 registered with the department, and who applies ionizing radiation at  
28 the direction of a licensed practitioner and who does not perform  
29 parenteral procedures.

30 ~~((10))~~ (11) "Secretary" means the secretary of health.

31 **Sec. 2.** RCW 18.84.080 and 2010 c 92 s 2 are each amended to read  
32 as follows:

33 (1) The secretary shall issue a certificate to any applicant who  
34 demonstrates to the secretary's satisfaction, that the following  
35 requirements have been met to practice as:

36 (a) A diagnostic radiologic technologist, therapeutic radiologic  
37 technologist, magnetic resonance imaging technologist, or nuclear  
38 medicine technologist:

1 (i) Graduation from an approved school or successful completion  
2 of alternate training that meets the criteria established by the  
3 secretary;

4 (ii) Satisfactory completion of a radiologic (~~technologist~~)  
5 technology examination approved by the secretary; and

6 (iii) Good moral character;

7 (b) A radiologist assistant:

8 (i) Satisfactory completion of an approved radiologist assistant  
9 program;

10 (ii) Satisfactory completion of a radiologist assistant  
11 examination approved by the secretary; and

12 (iii) Good moral character; or

13 (c) A cardiovascular invasive specialist:

14 (i) Satisfactory completion of a cardiovascular invasive  
15 specialist program or alternate training approved by the secretary.  
16 The secretary may only approve a cardiovascular invasive specialist  
17 program that includes training in the following subjects:  
18 Cardiovascular anatomy and physiology, pharmacology, radiation  
19 physics and safety, radiation imaging and positioning, medical  
20 recordkeeping, and multicultural health as required by RCW  
21 43.70.615(3);

22 (ii) Satisfactory completion of a cardiovascular invasive  
23 specialist examination approved by the secretary. For purposes of  
24 this subsection (1)(c)(ii), the secretary may approve an examination  
25 administered by a national credentialing organization for  
26 cardiovascular invasive specialists; and

27 (iii) Good moral character.

28 (2) Applicants shall be subject to the grounds for denial or  
29 issuance of a conditional license under chapter 18.130 RCW.

30 (3) The secretary shall establish by rule what constitutes  
31 adequate proof of meeting the requirements for certification and for  
32 designation of certification in a particular field of radiologic  
33 technology.

34 **Sec. 3.** RCW 18.84.030 and 2008 c 246 s 3 are each amended to  
35 read as follows:

36 No person may practice radiologic technology without being  
37 registered or certified under this chapter, unless that person is a  
38 licensed practitioner as defined in RCW 18.84.020(~~(+3)~~) (5). A  
39 person represents himself or herself to the public as a certified

1 radiologic technologist when that person adopts or uses a title or  
2 description of services that incorporates one or more of the  
3 following items or designations:

4 (1) Certified radiologic technologist or CRT, for persons so  
5 certified under this chapter;

6 (2) Certified radiologic therapy technologist, CRTT, or CRT, for  
7 persons certified in the therapeutic field;

8 (3) Certified radiologic diagnostic technologist, CRDT, or CRT,  
9 for persons certified in the diagnostic field;

10 (4) Certified nuclear medicine technologist, CNMT, or CRT, for  
11 persons certified as nuclear medicine technologists; ((~~or~~))

12 (5) Certified magnetic resonance imaging technologist, CMRIT, or  
13 CRT, for persons certified as magnetic resonance imaging  
14 technologists; or

15 (6) Certified radiologist assistant or CRA for persons certified  
16 as radiologist assistants.

17 **Sec. 4.** RCW 18.84.130 and 1991 c 222 s 5 are each amended to  
18 read as follows:

19 The secretary may provide educational materials and training to  
20 registered X-ray technicians, certified radiologic technologists,  
21 licensed practitioners and the public concerning, but not limited to,  
22 health risks associated with ionizing and nonionizing radiation,  
23 proper radiographic techniques, and X-ray and other imaging equipment  
24 maintenance. The secretary may charge fees to recover the cost of  
25 providing educational materials and training.

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