



## Oregon Society of Radiologic Technologists

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TO: Members of the Oregon Legislature:

The Oregon Society of Radiologic Technologists supports HB 2104 as a way to protect the safety of Oregon residents. Medical imaging comprises of different modalities delivering either ionizing or nonionizing radiation. Although there is more understanding concerning ionizing radiation delivered by x-ray or radiopharmaceuticals, there is emerging concerns over extended exposure by devices producing nonionizing radiation.

In 2008 the Association for Medical Ultrasound (AIUM) adopted an official statement stating ultrasound should observe principles of: As Low As Reasonably Achievable (ALARA), which is the same guidance used in conducting ionizing radiation producing exams. According to AIUM, ultrasound energy has the potential to produce biological effects. These bioeffects may result from scanning for a prolonged period, inappropriate use of color or pulsed Doppler ultrasound without a medical indication, or excessive thermal or mechanical index settings. According to the US-FDA publication *Avoid "Keepsake" Images, Heartbeat Monitors*, (03-24-2008) "Performing prenatal ultrasounds without medical oversight may put a mother and her unborn baby at risk,"

Overall, imaging technology is rapidly evolving to aid in diagnosing and treatment of disease. At the same time, there is an increased need to ensure using imaging equipment is more a benefit than a risk.

Accordingly, it is appropriate for the State of Oregon, through action by the State Legislature, to protect the public health and safety through a statutory provision to outlaw all imaging that is not completed for a legitimate medical purpose, as determined by a licensed medical professional operating within their scope of practice.

Sincerely,

Susan Putnam-Hopkins  
President  
Oregon Society of Radiologic Technologists