

Dear Members of the House Committee on Health Care:

I am a certified and licensed radiologic technologist with over 30 years in health care. I strongly oppose the amendment proposed to SB 1549 to allow advanced practice registered nurses to supervise or perform medical imaging studies.

Advanced practice registered nurses do not have the education, experience or skills required to perform, or supervise the performance of, highly technical medical imaging procedures that use ionizing radiation like x-ray, fluoroscopy or computed tomography. Only certified and licensed radiologic technologists should perform medical procedures that use ionizing radiation under the supervision of a licensed physician.

Advanced practice registered nurses are an important part of the patient care team, but do not have the specialized education in radiation safety, radiation protection or image acquisition to supervise or perform these complex and potentially dangerous imaging procedures.

I encourage you to not adopt this amendment to SB 1549 to ensure that patients receive the best imaging care possible, performed and supervised by qualified health care professionals specializing in the management of radiation.

If you would like to discuss my concerns in greater detail, I would be willing to have this conversation with you or members of your committee.

Respectfully submitted:

Christopher Peck, RTR
Manager, Medical Imaging, Radiation Safety Officer
Columbia Memorial Hospital
2111 Exchange Street
Astoria, Oregon. 97103
Phone: 503-338-4543
Fax: 503-325-1765
E-mail: cpeck@columbiamemorial.org