

1 TO THE HONORABLE SENATE:

2 The Committee on Health and Welfare to which was referred House Bill
3 No. 473 entitled “An act relating to radiologist assistants” respectfully reports
4 that it has considered the same and recommends that the Senate propose to the
5 House that the bill be amended by striking out all after the enacting clause and
6 inserting in lieu thereof the following:

7 Sec. 1. 26 V.S.A. § 2851 is amended to read:

8 § 2851. DEFINITIONS

9 As used in this chapter:

10 * * *

11 (8) “Readily available” means that a supervising radiologist is available
12 in person or is available remotely by telephone or through a live, interactive
13 audio and video connection.

14 (9) “Supervision” means the direction and review by a supervising
15 radiologist, as determined to be appropriate by the Board, of the medical
16 services provided by the radiologist assistant. At a minimum, supervision shall
17 mean that a radiologist is readily available for consultation and intervention. A
18 radiologist assistant may provide services under the direction and review of
19 more than one supervising radiologist during the course of ~~his or her~~ the
20 radiologist assistant’s employment, subject to the limitations on ~~his or her~~ the

1 radiologist assistant's scope of practice as set forth in this chapter and the
2 protocol filed under subsection 2853(b) of this title.

3 Sec. 2. 26 V.S.A. § 2857 is amended to read:

4 § 2857. SUPERVISION AND SCOPE OF PRACTICE

5 (a)(1) The number of radiologist assistants permitted to practice under the
6 direction and supervision of a radiologist shall be determined by the Board
7 after review of the system of care delivery in which the supervising radiologist
8 and radiologist assistants propose to practice. Scope of practice and levels of
9 supervision shall be consistent with guidelines adopted by the American
10 College of Radiology, the American Society of Radiologic Technologists, and
11 the ARRT.

12 (2) The authority of a radiologist assistant to practice shall terminate
13 immediately upon termination of the radiologist assistant's employment, and
14 the primary supervising radiologist shall immediately notify the Board and the
15 Commissioner of the Department of Health of the termination. The radiologist
16 assistant's authority to practice shall not resume until ~~he or she~~ the radiologist
17 assistant provides proof of other employment and a protocol as required under
18 this chapter.

19 (3) The primary supervising radiologist and radiologist assistant shall be
20 employed by and have as their primary work site the same Vermont health care
21 facility or an affiliate of the facility; provided, however, that the primary

1 supervising radiologist does not need to be physically present at the same
2 location where the radiologist assistant is practicing as long as a supervising
3 radiologist is readily available for consultation and intervention.

4 (4) If a supervising radiologist is not physically present at the location at
5 which a radiologist assistant is practicing, the radiologist assistant shall provide
6 services only when a physician licensed pursuant to chapter 23 or 33 of this
7 title, who need not be a radiologist, is physically present at the location and
8 would be responsible for providing intervention or assistance in the event of a
9 medical emergency.

10 (b)(1) Subject to the limitations set forth in subsection (a) of this section,
11 the radiologist assistant's scope of practice shall be limited to that delegated to
12 the radiologist assistant by the primary supervising radiologist and for which
13 the radiologist assistant is qualified by education, training, and experience. At
14 no time shall the practice of the radiologist assistant exceed the normal scope
15 of the supervising radiologist's practice.

16 (2) A radiologist assistant ~~may~~ shall not interpret images, make
17 diagnoses, or prescribe medications or therapies but may communicate with
18 patients regarding the radiologist assistant's preliminary observations
19 regarding the technical performance of a procedure or examination and
20 regarding the findings from a radiologist's report. Preliminary observations

1 shall not include any communication about the presence or absence of features
2 or characteristics that would be considered in making a diagnosis.

3 Sec. 3. EFFECTIVE DATE

4 This act shall take effect on July 1, 2023.

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15 (Committee vote: _____)

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Senator _____

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FOR THE COMMITTEE