

1 H.473

2 An act relating to radiologist assistants

3 The House concurs in the Senate proposal of amendment with further
4 proposal of amendment thereto by striking out all after the enacting clause and
5 inserting in lieu thereof the following:

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

7 § 2851. DEFINITIONS

8 As used in this chapter:

9 * * *

10 (6) “Radiologist” means a person who is licensed to practice medicine
11 or osteopathy under chapter 23 or 33 of this title and who meets one or both of
12 the following requirements:

13 (A) The person is certified by or eligible for certification by the
14 American Board of Radiology or the American Osteopathic Board of
15 Radiology or their predecessors or successors ~~or who~~.

16 (B) The person is credentialed by a hospital to practice radiology and
17 engages in the practice of radiology at that hospital full-time.

18 * * *

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

4 (9) “Supervision” means the direction and review by a supervising
5 radiologist, as determined to be appropriate by the Board, of the medical
6 services provided by the radiologist assistant. At a minimum, supervision shall
7 mean that a radiologist is readily available for consultation and intervention. A
8 radiologist assistant may provide services under the direction and review of
9 more than one supervising radiologist during the course of ~~his or her~~ the
10 radiologist assistant’s employment, subject to the limitations on ~~his or her~~ the
11 radiologist assistant’s scope of practice as set forth in this chapter and the
12 protocol filed under subsection 2853(b) of this title.

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

14 § 2857. SUPERVISION AND SCOPE OF PRACTICE

15 (a)(1) The number of radiologist assistants permitted to practice under the
16 direction and supervision of a radiologist shall be determined by the Board
17 after review of the system of care delivery in which the supervising radiologist
18 and radiologist assistants propose to practice. Scope of practice and levels of
19 supervision shall be consistent with guidelines adopted by the American

1 College of Radiology, the American Society of Radiologic Technologists, and
2 the ARRT.

3 (2) The authority of a radiologist assistant to practice shall terminate
4 immediately upon termination of the radiologist assistant's employment, and
5 the primary supervising radiologist shall immediately notify the Board and the
6 Commissioner of the Department of Health of the termination. The radiologist
7 assistant's authority to practice shall not resume until ~~he or she~~ the radiologist
8 assistant provides proof of other employment and a protocol as required under
9 this chapter.

10 (3) The primary supervising radiologist and radiologist assistant shall be
11 employed by and have as their primary work site the same health care facility
12 or an affiliate of the facility, provided that:

13 (A) the radiologist assistant's primary work site shall be located in
14 Vermont; and

15 (B) the primary supervising radiologist does not need to be physically
16 present at the same location where the radiologist assistant is practicing as long
17 as a supervising radiologist is readily available for consultation and
18 intervention.

19 (4) If a supervising radiologist is not physically present at the location at
20 which a radiologist assistant is practicing, the radiologist assistant shall provide

1 services only when a physician licensed pursuant to chapter 23 or 33 of this
2 title, who need not be a radiologist, is physically present at the location and
3 would be responsible for providing intervention or assistance in the event of a
4 medical emergency.

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

11 (2) A radiologist assistant ~~may~~ shall not interpret images, make
12 diagnoses, or prescribe medications or therapies but may communicate with
13 patients regarding the radiologist assistant's preliminary observations
14 regarding the technical performance of a procedure or examination and
15 regarding the findings from a radiologist's report. Preliminary observations
16 shall not include any communication about the presence or absence of features
17 or characteristics that would be considered in making a diagnosis.

18 Sec. 3. EFFECTIVE DATE

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