

September 14, 2023

RE: HB 87

Dear Committee Members,

I am a very concerned about the proposed HB 87 proposed legislation specifically Section 2-15-1738 MCA Board of radiologic technologists.

This legislation does not improve or protect the public health as it pertains to the use of ionizing radiation for the purpose of diagnoses. This proposed change in legislative rule puts patients at risk and is a step backwards for patient safety. I have worked in radiology for over 40 years and have lived in Montana for 22 of those years practicing as a Radiology Practitioner Assistant at Billings Clinic. I am also the President of the Board of Radiologic Technologists and, my comments below do not represent the RT Board of Radiologic Technologist's but, those of a very concerned citizen of Montana working in the radiology field.

Section 2-15-1738 MCA

(2) Reducing the board from 7 to 5 **members limits the ability to establish a quorum for meetings and fill the screening panel and adjudication panel positions** with radiologic technologists.

(a) the one radiologist **should live, work, and be licensed in Montana always without exception in Montana**. Montana rules and legislative changes should never be done by anyone that does not reside and practice in Montana. The geography and medical access differ from state to state, and I would never want someone that lived and worked outside of Montana to have any influence in our rules or standards and, I would not trust them because Montana is not New York or California.

(c) reducing the required number of radiologic technologists **from 4 to 2 members limits the ability to establish a quorum and fill screening panel and adjudication panel positions**. Also, having more members will better represent the different geographic areas of Montana. A licensed Radiology Practitioner should also remain on the RT Board

Respectfully submitted,

Mike Nielsen RT(R), CNMT, RPA (CBRPA)

C: 406-672-0318

Email: [mnielsen@billingsclinic.org](mailto:mnielsen@billingsclinic.org)

[mnielsen41@gmail.com](mailto:mnielsen41@gmail.com)