

CERTIFICATION OF ENROLLMENT

HOUSE BILL 2037

52nd Legislature
1991 Regular Session

Passed by the House March 20, 1991
Yeas 98 Nays 0

**Speaker of the
House of Representatives**

Passed by the Senate April 12, 1991
Yeas 39 Nays 0

President of the Senate

Approved

Governor of the State of Washington

CERTIFICATE

I, Alan Thompson, Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives of the State of Washington, do hereby certify that the attached is **HOUSE BILL 2037** as passed by the House of Representatives and the Senate on the dates hereon set forth.

Chief Clerk

FILED

Secretary of State
State of Washington

HOUSE BILL 2037

AS AMENDED BY THE SENATE

Passed Legislature - 1991 Regular Session

State of Washington 52nd Legislature 1991 Regular Session

By Representatives Morris, Moyer and Sprenkle; by request of Department of Health.

Read first time February 19, 1991. Referred to Committee on Health Care.

1 AN ACT Relating to the regulation of persons who apply ionizing
2 radiation to human beings; amending RCW 18.84.010, 18.84.020,
3 18.84.030, and 18.84.040; adding new sections to chapter 18.84 RCW;
4 adding a new section to chapter 18.25 RCW; repealing RCW 43.131.349,
5 43.131.350, and 18.84.900; providing an effective date; and declaring
6 an emergency.

7 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

8 **Sec. 1.** RCW 18.84.010 and 1987 c 412 s 1 are each amended to read
9 as follows:

10 It is the intent and purpose of this chapter to protect the public
11 (~~by setting standards of qualification, education, training, and~~
12 ~~experience for use~~) by the certification and registration of
13 practitioners of radiological technology. By promoting high standards
14 of professional performance, by requiring professional accountability,
15 and by credentialing those persons who seek to provide radiological

1 technology under the title of radiological technologists, and by
2 regulating all persons utilizing ionizing radiation on human beings
3 this chapter identifies those practitioners who have achieved a
4 particular level of competency. Nothing in this chapter shall be
5 construed to require that individual or group policies or contracts of
6 an insurance carrier, health care service contractor, or health
7 maintenance organization provide benefits or coverage for services and
8 supplies provided by a person certified under this chapter.

9 The legislature finds and declares that this chapter conforms to
10 the guidelines, terms, and definitions for the credentialing of health
11 or health-related professions specified under chapter 18.120 RCW.

12 **Sec. 2.** RCW 18.84.020 and 1991 c 3 s 204 are each amended to read
13 as follows:

14 Unless the context clearly requires otherwise, the definitions in
15 this section apply throughout this chapter.

16 (1) "Department" means the department of health.

17 (2) "Secretary" means the secretary of health.

18 (3) "Licensed practitioner" means (~~(a physician or osteopathic~~
19 ~~physician licensed under chapter 18.71 or 18.57 RCW, respectively; a~~
20 ~~registered nurse licensed under chapter 18.88 RCW; or a podiatrist~~
21 ~~licensed under chapter 18.22 RCW)) any licensed health care
22 practitioner performing services within the person's authorized scope
23 of practice.~~

24 (4) "Radiologic technologist" means an individual certified under
25 this chapter, other than a licensed practitioner, who practices
26 radiologic technology as a:

27 (a) Diagnostic radiologic technologist, who is a person who
28 actually handles x-ray equipment in the process of applying radiation

1 on a human being for diagnostic purposes (~~((under the supervision))~~) at
2 the direction of a licensed practitioner; or

3 (b) Therapeutic radiologic technologist, who is a person who uses
4 radiation-generating equipment for therapeutic purposes on human
5 subjects at the direction of a licensed practitioner; or

6 (c) Nuclear medicine technologist, who is a person who prepares
7 radiopharmaceuticals and administers them to human beings for
8 diagnostic and therapeutic purposes and who performs in vivo and in
9 vitro detection and measurement of radioactivity for medical purposes
10 (~~((under the supervision))~~) at the direction of a licensed practitioner.

11 (5) "Advisory committee" means the Washington state radiologic
12 technology advisory committee.

13 (6) "Approved school of radiologic technology" means a school of
14 radiologic technology approved by the council on medical education of
15 the American medical association or a school found to maintain the
16 equivalent of such a course of study as determined by the department.
17 Such school may be operated by a medical or educational institution,
18 and for the purpose of providing the requisite clinical experience,
19 shall be affiliated with one or more general hospitals.

20 (7) "Radiologic technology" means the use of ionizing radiation
21 upon a human being for diagnostic or therapeutic purposes.

22 (8) "Radiologist" means a physician certified by the American board
23 of radiology or the American osteopathic board of radiology.

24 (9) "Registered x-ray technician" means a person who is registered
25 with the department, and who applies ionizing radiation at the
26 direction of a licensed practitioner.

27 **Sec. 3.** RCW 18.84.030 and 1987 c 412 s 2 are each amended to read
28 as follows:

1 No person may (~~represent himself or herself to the public as a~~
2 ~~certified radiologic technologist without holding a valid certificate~~
3 ~~to practice under this chapter~~)) practice radiologic technology without
4 being registered or certified under this chapter, unless that person is
5 a licensed practitioner as defined in RCW 18.84.020(3). A person
6 represents himself or herself to the public as a certified radiological
7 technologist when that person adopts or uses a title or description of
8 services that incorporates one or more of the following items or
9 designations:

10 (1) Certified radiologic technologist or CRT, for persons so
11 certified under this chapter;

12 (2) Certified radiologic therapy technologist, CRTT, or CRT, for
13 persons certified in the therapeutic field;

14 (3) Certified radiologic diagnostic technologist, CRDT, or CRT, for
15 persons certified in the diagnostic field; or

16 (4) Certified nuclear medicine technologist, CNMT, or CRT, for
17 persons certified as nuclear medicine technologists.

18 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** The secretary may issue a registration to
19 an applicant who submits, on forms provided by the department, the
20 applicant's name, the address, occupational title, name and location of
21 business where applicant performs his or her services, and other
22 information as determined by the secretary, including information
23 necessary to determine whether there are grounds for denial of
24 registration under this chapter or chapter 18.130 RCW. Each applicant
25 shall pay a fee as determined by the secretary as provided in RCW
26 43.70.250. The secretary shall establish by rule the procedural
27 requirements and fees for registration and for renewal of
28 registrations.

1 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** The secretary may provide educational
2 materials and training to registered x-ray technicians, certified
3 radiologic technologists, licensed practitioners and the public
4 concerning, but not limited to, health risks associated with ionizing
5 radiation, proper radiographic techniques, and x-ray equipment
6 maintenance. The secretary may charge fees to recover the cost of
7 providing educational materials and training.

8 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 6.** Nothing in this chapter may be construed to
9 prohibit or restrict the practice of a profession by a person who is
10 either registered, certified, licensed, or similarly regulated under
11 the laws of this state who is performing services within the person's
12 authorized scope of practice.

13 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 7.** This chapter does not apply to
14 practitioners licensed under chapter 18.32 RCW or unlicensed persons
15 supervised by persons licensed under chapter 18.32 RCW.

16 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 8.** This chapter does not apply to
17 practitioners licensed under chapter 18.25 RCW or unlicensed persons
18 supervised by persons licensed under chapter 18.25 RCW.

19 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 9.** A new section is added to chapter 18.25 RCW
20 to read as follows:

21 (1) A chiropractor may employ a technician to operate x-ray
22 equipment after the technician has registered with the board.

23 (2) The board may adopt rules necessary and appropriate to carry
24 out the purposes of this section.

1 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 10.** Persons required to register under this
2 chapter must be registered by January 1, 1992.

3 **Sec. 11.** RCW 18.84.040 and 1991 c 3 s 205 are each amended to read
4 as follows:

5 (1) In addition to any other authority provided by law, the
6 secretary may in consultation with the advisory committee:

7 (a) Adopt rules, in accordance with chapter 34.05 RCW, necessary to
8 implement this chapter;

9 (b) Set all registration, certification, and renewal fees in
10 accordance with RCW 43.70.250;

11 (c) Establish forms and procedures necessary to administer this
12 chapter;

13 (d) Evaluate and designate those schools from which graduation will
14 be accepted as proof of an applicant's eligibility to receive a
15 certificate;

16 (e) Determine whether alternative methods of training are
17 equivalent to formal education, and to establish forms, procedures, and
18 criteria for evaluation of an applicant's alternative training to
19 determine the applicant's eligibility to receive a certificate;

20 (f) Issue a certificate to any applicant who has met the education,
21 training, and conduct requirements for certification; and

22 (g) Issue a registration to an applicant who meets the requirement
23 for a registration.

24 (2) The secretary may hire clerical, administrative, and
25 investigative staff as needed to implement this chapter.

26 (~~(2)~~) (3) The uniform disciplinary act, chapter 18.130 RCW,
27 governs the issuance and denial of registrations and certifications,
28 unregistered and uncertified practice, and the discipline of

1 registrants and certificants under this chapter. The secretary ((~~shall~~
2 be)) is the disciplining authority under this chapter.

3 NEW SECTION. Sec. 12. Sections 4 through 8 and 10 of this act
4 are each added to chapter 18.84 RCW.

5 NEW SECTION. Sec. 13. The following acts or parts of acts are
6 each repealed:

7 (1) RCW 43.131.349 and 1990 c 6 s 1 & 1987 c 412 s 18;

8 (2) RCW 43.131.350 and 1990 c 6 s 2 & 1987 c 412 s 19; and

9 (3) RCW 18.84.900 and 1987 c 412 s 13.

10 NEW SECTION. Sec. 14. This act is necessary for the immediate
11 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the
12 state government and its existing public institutions, and shall take
13 effect July 1, 1991.