
SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1546

State of Washington

69th Legislature

2025 Regular Session

By House Health Care & Wellness (originally sponsored by Representatives Parshley, Schmick, Ryu, and Macri)

READ FIRST TIME 02/21/25.

1 AN ACT Relating to general supervision of diagnostic radiologic
2 technologists, therapeutic radiologic technologists, and magnetic
3 resonance imaging technologists by licensed physicians; amending RCW
4 18.84.020; and adding a new section to chapter 18.84 RCW.

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

6 **Sec. 1.** RCW 18.84.020 and 2024 c 94 s 1 are each amended to read
7 as follows:

8 The definitions in this section apply throughout this chapter
9 unless the context clearly requires otherwise.

10 (1) "Approved cardiovascular invasive specialist program" or
11 "approved radiologist assistant program" means a school approved by
12 the secretary. The secretary may recognize other organizations that
13 establish standards for radiologist assistant programs or
14 cardiovascular invasive specialist programs and designate schools
15 that meet the organization's standards as approved.

16 (2) "Approved school of radiologic technology" means a school of
17 radiologic technology, cardiovascular invasive specialist program, or
18 radiologist assistant program approved by the secretary or a school
19 found to maintain the equivalent of such a course of study as
20 determined by the department. Such school may be operated by a
21 medical or educational institution, and for the purpose of providing

1 any requisite clinical experience, shall be affiliated with one or
2 more general hospitals.

3 (3) "Cardiac or vascular catheterization" means all anatomic or
4 physiological studies of intervention in which the heart, coronary
5 arteries, or vascular system are entered via a systemic vein or
6 artery using a catheter that is manipulated under fluoroscopic
7 visualization.

8 (4) "Department" means the department of health.

9 (5) (a) "General supervision" for purposes of intravenous contrast
10 procedures authorized under this section means supervision of a
11 procedure that is furnished under the overall direction and control
12 of a physician licensed under chapter 18.71 or 18.57 RCW, but where
13 the physician is not required to be physically present during the
14 performance of the procedure. A licensed practitioner with the
15 requisite training to respond to adverse events must be on-site at
16 the facility where the procedure is taking place to manage patient
17 care as needed.

18 (b) If general supervision is performed remotely through real-
19 time audio and visual interactive telecommunications, by a physician
20 licensed under chapter 18.71 or 18.75 RCW, the process must comply
21 with all federal and state laws and regulations and local,
22 institutional, site, and facility policies, guidelines, and rules
23 related to telemedicine. The physician performing general supervision
24 must be on-call, available for consultation, or able to respond to
25 on-site patient care as needed.

26 (6) "Licensed practitioner" means any licensed health care
27 practitioner performing services within the person's authorized scope
28 of practice.

29 ~~((6))~~ (7) "Nonionizing radiation" includes radiation such as
30 radiofrequency or microwaves, visible, infrared, or ultraviolet light
31 or ultrasound.

32 ~~((7))~~ (8) "Radiologic technologist" means an individual
33 certified under this chapter, other than a licensed practitioner, who
34 practices radiologic technology as a:

35 (a) Diagnostic radiologic technologist, who is a person who
36 actually handles X-ray equipment in the process of applying radiation
37 on a human being for diagnostic purposes at the direction of a
38 licensed practitioner ~~(, this)~~. This includes parenteral procedures
39 related to radiologic technology when performed under the direct
40 supervision of a physician licensed under chapter 18.71 or 18.57 RCW,

1 with the exception of intravenous contrast procedures, which may be
2 performed under general supervision;

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(~~(,—this))~~). This
6 includes parenteral procedures related to radiologic technology when
7 performed under the direct supervision of a physician licensed under
8 chapter 18.71 or 18.57 RCW, with the exception of intravenous
9 contrast procedures, which may be performed under general
10 supervision;

11 (c) Magnetic resonance imaging technologist, who is a person who
12 uses a nonionizing radiation process on a human being by which
13 certain nuclei, when placed in a magnetic field, absorb and release
14 energy in the form of radio waves that are analyzed by a computer
15 thereby producing an image of human anatomy and physiological
16 information at the direction of a licensed practitioner(~~(,—this))~~).
17 This includes parenteral procedures related to radiologic technology
18 when performed under the direct supervision of a physician licensed
19 under chapter 18.71 or 18.57 RCW, with the exception of intravenous
20 contrast procedures, which may be performed under general
21 supervision;

22 (d) Nuclear medicine technologist, who is a person who prepares
23 radiopharmaceuticals and administers them to human beings for
24 diagnostic and therapeutic purposes and who performs in vivo and in
25 vitro detection and measurement of radioactivity for medical purposes
26 at the direction of a licensed practitioner;

27 (e) Radiologist assistant, who is an advanced-level certified
28 diagnostic radiologic technologist who assists radiologists by
29 performing advanced diagnostic imaging procedures as determined by
30 rule under levels of supervision defined by the secretary(~~(,—this))~~).
31 This includes but is not limited to enteral and parenteral procedures
32 when performed under the direction of the supervising radiologist,
33 and that these procedures may include injecting diagnostic agents to
34 sites other than intravenous, performing diagnostic aspirations and
35 localizations, and assisting radiologists with other invasive
36 procedures; or

37 (f) Cardiovascular invasive specialist, who is a person who
38 assists in cardiac or vascular catheterization procedures under the
39 personal supervision of a physician licensed under chapter 18.71 or
40 18.57 RCW. This includes parenteral procedures related to cardiac or

1 vascular catheterization including, but not limited to, parenteral
2 procedures involving arteries and veins.

3 ~~((8))~~ (9) "Radiologic technology" means the use of ionizing or
4 ~~((nonionizing))~~ nonionizing radiation upon a human being for
5 diagnostic or therapeutic purposes.

6 ~~((9))~~ (10) "Radiologist" means a physician certified by the
7 American board of radiology or the American osteopathic board of
8 radiology.

9 ~~((10))~~ (11) "Registered X-ray technician" means a person who is
10 registered with the department, and who applies ionizing radiation at
11 the direction of a licensed practitioner and who does not perform
12 parenteral procedures.

13 ~~((11))~~ (12) "Secretary" means the secretary of health.

14 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 18.84
15 RCW to read as follows:

16 Nothing in RCW 18.84.020(5) is meant to prevent licensed health
17 care providers working within their scope of practice from providing
18 supervision or otherwise alter or amend their scope of practice, as
19 allowed by state and federal law.

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