
SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5299

State of Washington

69th Legislature

2025 Regular Session

By Senate Health & Long-Term Care (originally sponsored by Senators Riccelli, Muzzall, Dozier, Krishnadasan, and Nobles)

READ FIRST TIME 02/12/25.

1 AN ACT Relating to virtual direct supervision of diagnostic
2 radiologic technologists, therapeutic radiologic technologists, and
3 magnetic resonance imaging technologists by licensed physicians; and
4 amending RCW 18.84.020.

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) "Licensed practitioner" means any licensed health care
10 practitioner performing services within the person's authorized scope
11 of practice.

12 (6) "Nonionizing radiation" includes radiation such as
13 radiofrequency or microwaves, visible, infrared, or ultraviolet light
14 or ultrasound.

15 (7) "Radiologic technologist" means an individual certified under
16 this chapter, other than a licensed practitioner, who practices
17 radiologic technology as a:

18 (a) Diagnostic radiologic technologist, who is a person who
19 actually handles X-ray equipment in the process of applying radiation
20 on a human being for diagnostic purposes at the direction of a
21 licensed practitioner(~~(,—this)~~). This includes parenteral procedures
22 related to radiologic technology when performed under the direct
23 supervision of a physician licensed under chapter 18.71 or 18.57 RCW,
24 with the exception of intravenous contrast procedures, which may be
25 performed under virtual direct supervision;

26 (b) Therapeutic radiologic technologist, who is a person who uses
27 radiation-generating equipment for therapeutic purposes on human
28 subjects at the direction of a licensed practitioner(~~(,—this)~~). This
29 includes parenteral procedures related to radiologic technology when
30 performed under the direct supervision of a physician licensed under
31 chapter 18.71 or 18.57 RCW, with the exception of intravenous
32 contrast procedures, which may be performed under virtual direct
33 supervision;

34 (c) Magnetic resonance imaging technologist, who is a person who
35 uses a nonionizing radiation process on a human being by which
36 certain nuclei, when placed in a magnetic field, absorb and release
37 energy in the form of radio waves that are analyzed by a computer
38 thereby producing an image of human anatomy and physiological
39 information at the direction of a licensed practitioner(~~(,—this)~~).
40 This includes parenteral procedures related to radiologic technology

1 when performed under the direct supervision of a physician licensed
2 under chapter 18.71 or 18.57 RCW, with the exception of intravenous
3 contrast procedures, which may be performed under virtual direct
4 supervision;

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

10 (e) Radiologist assistant, who is an advanced-level certified
11 diagnostic radiologic technologist who assists radiologists by
12 performing advanced diagnostic imaging procedures as determined by
13 rule under levels of supervision defined by the secretary(~~(, this))~~._
14 This includes but is not limited to enteral and parenteral procedures
15 when performed under the direction of the supervising radiologist,
16 and that these procedures may include injecting diagnostic agents to
17 sites other than intravenous, performing diagnostic aspirations and
18 localizations, and assisting radiologists with other invasive
19 procedures; or

20 (f) Cardiovascular invasive specialist, who is a person who
21 assists in cardiac or vascular catheterization procedures under the
22 personal supervision of a physician licensed under chapter 18.71 or
23 18.57 RCW. This includes parenteral procedures related to cardiac or
24 vascular catheterization including, but not limited to, parenteral
25 procedures involving arteries and veins.

26 (8) "Radiologic technology" means the use of ionizing or
27 (~~nonionizing~~) nonionizing radiation upon a human being for
28 diagnostic or therapeutic purposes.

29 (9) "Radiologist" means a physician certified by the American
30 board of radiology or the American osteopathic board of radiology.

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

35 (11) "Secretary" means the secretary of health.

36 (12)(a) "Virtual direct supervision" means supervision of a
37 procedure that is furnished under the overall direction and control
38 of a physician licensed under chapter 18.71 or 18.57 RCW, where the
39 physician is not required to be physically present during the

1 performance of the procedure but is immediately available to assist
2 through real-time audio and visual interactive telecommunications.
3 (b) Virtual direct supervision must comply with all federal and
4 state laws and regulations and local, institutional, site, and
5 facility policies, guidelines, and rules related to telemedicine.
6 Clinical staff with requisite training and qualifications to
7 administer medications in the event of an adverse event must be
8 present at the facility to respond to on-site patient care as needed.
9 The physician performing virtual direct supervision must be within 30
10 miles of the facility where the procedure is taking place.

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