



Testimony of Joshua Johnson, MS, DABR, Certified Radiation Expert  
Chief Compliance Diagnostic Medical Physicist of OMPC

**Re: HB 59 Removing Certification of Certified Radiation Experts**

It is my opinion that removing the certification of Radiation Experts will have many potentially unintended consequences to those currently working as Certified Radiation Experts, their employers, and those who utilize services of Certified Radiation Experts. As worded in this bill in conjunction with current regulations, removing the certification of Radiation Experts and requiring board certification would potentially benefit a subsection of current Certified Radiation Experts by removing the process of recertification. However, there are concerning aspects of this bill that I will outline here.

Removing the certification of Radiation Experts will remove the alternate pathway that many current Certified Radiation Experts have used to be able to perform the duties that are required of the Certified Radiation Expert. From my understanding, approximately 1 in 3 Certified Radiation Experts in Ohio that work in Diagnostic Medical Physics would not qualify as Radiation Experts as they do not possess the required board certification. This would limit their scope of practice and negatively impact their potential employment. There are others who have completed graduate school with the goal of being Certified Radiation Experts. This change would make it so that both of these groups would be required to pursue board certification to be a Radiation Expert. This would involve completion of a residency to be certified by the American Board of Radiology. These residency programs are limited and would require most of these individuals to take a step back in their field to pursue them.

Limiting the field of Radiation Experts to those who are board certified would create a significant burden on the companies who provide the Radiation Expert services as well as the individuals who would still be qualified as Radiation Experts. There are not enough board certified physicists to perform all of the tasks that require a Radiation Expert. This would lead to physicists being overworked and stressed in order to meet the demands of all their clients. Employers already have difficulty filling open positions with qualified personnel, and this would exacerbate this issue.

The companies who require services of a Radiation Expert would also be negatively impacted. The shortage of Radiation Experts would make it difficult to find companies or individuals who can complete the work. This would likely lead to widespread non-compliance. With board certified physicists being required to complete the work, the cost of services would dramatically increase from current industry standards with decreased availability of Radiation Experts.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Josh Johnson". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Josh Johnson, MS, DABR  
Chief Compliance Diagnostic Medical Physicist