



Testimony of Tyler Cantrell, MS, CHP, Certified Radiation Expert
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 Radiation Experts, their employers, and those who utilize services of Certified Radiation Experts. As worded in HB 59, in conjunction with current regulations, the removal of the certification of Radiation Experts and requiring board certification would directly remove eligible workers, including myself, from being able to perform the duties required of a Radiation Expert despite being perfectly qualified as defined by the current alternative pathway for Certified Radiation Experts.

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. I am one of these individuals. This would limit our scope of practice and negatively impact our potential or current employment. The process for acquiring board certification is length, competitive, and limited. This would involve completing a Residency and potentially further education to be certified by the American Board of Radiology. The Residency programs are limited and would require anyone pursuing them to take a step back from their field.

Additionally, limiting the field of Radiation Experts to those who are only board certified would create a significant burden on the companies who provide the Radiation Expert services as well as the individuals who would qualify to remain Radiation Experts under the new rules. There are not enough board-certified physicists to perform all the task's required of a Radiation Expert. Employee's already currently have a very difficult time filling open positions with individuals who are either board eligible or board certified and this would work to make that issue worse. This increased burden would lead to burn out which would only perpetuate the current shortage.

Lastly, the companies who require services of a Radiation Expert would also be negatively impacted. Patient care is directly tied to the work of Radiation Experts and a shortage of these experts would make it difficult for industry needs to be met. For example, there are certain x-ray equipment that cannot be used clinically after an install or repair until a Radiation Expert ensures that it meets all applicable requirements and regulations. The likely outcome of this change would be widespread non-compliance.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tyler Cantrell". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name being more prominent.

Tyler Cantrell, M.S., CHP
Medical Physicist