

To: Ohio Senate Finance Commmitee

From: The Ohio Society of Radiologic Technologists

Date: May 29, 2025

Re: H.B. 96 GXMO Supervision Potential Issue

The Ohio Society of Radiologic Technologists (OSRT) is a non-profit professional organization representing Ohio medical imaging and radiologic science personnel. Our mission is to advocate for radiologic technologists by advancing professional practice to enhance patient care.

It is our understanding that there could be a potential amendment to H.B. 96 (State Budget) which would weaken supervision requirements for General X-ray Machine Operators (GXMO). Although we have not seen the potential amendment, currently, direct supervision by a Licensed Practitioner is required for GXMOs, and this amendment would allow for general supervision.

The OSRT believes that a change in supervision requirements for the GXMO would be detrimental to the standard of care for patients undergoing x-ray examinations for the following reasons:

- 1. GXMOs have limited education and training in diagnostic imaging and clinical practices which includes patient care, radiation protection, radiation biology, and patient positioning. There is currently no minimum hourly requirement for didactic or clinical education for the GXMO and many GXMOs complete their didactic education in one weekend and their clinical education in one afternoon. Radiologic technologists must complete a minimum of an associate degree program of at least 65 semester credit hours with most students completing a minimum of 1,000 clinical practicum hours.
- Currently, there are almost 14,000 certified and licensed radiologic technologists and less than 750
  GXMOs licensed and practicing in Ohio. Thus, this is NOT a workforce issue, but rather a patient care and
  safety issue.
- 3. A change in the supervision of the licensed GXMO without the ability to testify or debate this issue would negatively impact the quality of patient care and degrade the profession of medical imaging.

The OSRT believes that an issue of this magnitude should be fully vetted in a stand-alone bill that progresses through the routine legislative process, not as an amendment within the extremely large Budget Bill, as this is NOT a budget issue. The quality of patient care is important enough to let all stakeholders and constituents be heard.

To be clear, Ohio has been a leader in radiation safety issues, and this proposed change does not align with our state's strong history of providing quality patient care. Thus, we urge you to NOT support this amendment if it is proposed or introduced and continue to protect Ohio's citizens from inferior healthcare!