

Dear Delegates on the Health and Government Operations Committee,

I am writing to oppose HB0934 currently under consideration in the Maryland General Assembly. As a concerned citizen and resident of Maryland, this legislation is a risk to the safety of our community.

Allowing limited licensed radiographers to perform imaging utilizing radiation with limited knowledge or experience is extremely dangerous. I personally am aware of what x-ray taking entails, and it is not something that can be learned quickly for the masses. Years of radiation safety, medical knowledge, and hands on training goes into being a radiographer. My fear is the fast paced, minimal training, will not be enough for these limited licenses. As someone who needs regular imaging, I would be sure to ask whether or not the person doing my exam is a RT (R), and if they weren't, I would not feel comfortable being imaged by them.

Not only is safety a concern, but also the state of our economy and job opportunities. Those who do go to school full time to get an actual career in radiography will no longer make livable wages that they deserve for their hard work and education. Our healthcare system needs experienced, smart, driven people to administer radiation to the public. Not anyone looking for a quick job and wanting to make \$2 more than working a minimum wage job.

I respectfully urge you to reconsider the implications of HB0934 and to withdraw support for this legislation. Instead, I encourage a collaborative approach that prioritizes the safety and well-being of Maryland residents while addressing workforce shortages through proven, sustainable methods.

Thank you for considering my concerns regarding HB0934. I trust that you will act in the best interests of our community and uphold the standards of excellence in healthcare delivery that Maryland residents deserve.

Sincerely,

Christa Rapoza