



Maryland  
Hospital Association

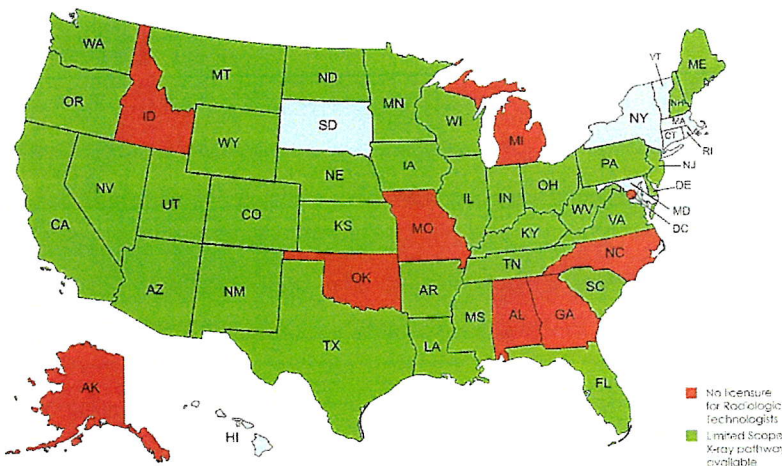
## EXPANDING ACCESS TO CARE & CAREER PATHWAYS

The average vacancy rate for radiologic technologists in hospitals across Maryland is 12%, and ambulatory care settings are also experiencing shortages. Ultimately, this impacts Marylanders' access to care. Senate Bill 830/House Bill 934 would allow health care workers, such as medical assistants, to receive training on radiation safety, positioning, and other critical components to perform specific types of X-rays under supervision. This bill will help alleviate the burden on the hospital workforce that arises from the need to have a radiologic technologist perform X-rays in clinics and urgent care centers. Increased access to these services in the ambulatory care setting will have the added benefit of improving hospital throughput and emergency department length of stay.

### MARYLANDERS DESERVE TIMELY ACCESS TO QUALITY CARE

**Limited, supervised practice will help expand access while ensuring quality and safety.** Only those who complete the required clinical and didactic training, both of which must be delivered by a registered radiologic technologist, will be allowed to perform these limited X-rays. Once training is complete, these individuals will only be able to perform X-rays under the supervision of a licensed radiologic technologist or physician. The scope will be restricted to X-rays of the chest, spine, and extremities.

**This pathway creates access to an affordable, accessible educational opportunity for those who currently cannot seek health care education in a traditional setting due to personal and/or economic barriers.** Ultimately, this will provide staff, such as medical assistants, with an introduction to radiologic technology and could generate interest in a career in radiologic technology. Additionally, freestanding medical facilities and ambulatory care settings in the state will benefit from the creation of this opportunity for career growth.



**34** states outline a pathway towards limited scope X-ray<sup>2</sup>  
**8** states and D.C. do not license X-ray personnel

#### HOW YOU CAN HELP

Vote favorably on SB 830/HB 934 to help ensure all Marylanders have access to vital X-ray services in their communities.

<sup>1</sup> [Maryland Board of Physicians Annual Report 2022](#)