



**HB 934 - Radiation Therapy, Radiography, Nuclear Medicine Technology, and Radiology
Assistance - Limited Licensed Radiologic Technologist**

Position: **Support**

March 5, 2024

The Honorable Joseline A. Pena-Melnyk
Chair, House Health & Government Operations Committee
241 House Office Building
Annapolis MD 21401

Dear Chair Pena-Melnyk:

I am writing to offer my strong support for the legislation under consideration that aims to recognize and regulate the role of Limited Radiology Technologists (LRTs) in the District of Columbia and Virginia. As a representative of MedStar Health Urgent Care, I have witnessed firsthand the invaluable contributions of LRTs to our healthcare system over the past two and a half years.

MedStar Health Urgent Care has been at the forefront of training and integrating LRTs into our healthcare team, both in the District of Columbia and in Virginia. Our rigorous training program, spanning over two and a half years, has equipped multiple LRTs with the skills and knowledge necessary to perform diagnostic imaging procedures effectively and safely.

There is no difference in the workflow for both the RTs or LRTs in the urgent care setting; the nurse practitioner (NP), the physician assistant (PA), or the doctor (MD) will order the basic x-ray, the RT or LRT will position the patient, set the appropriate parameters, take the image, and send the image to our radiologist for a final diagnostic read.

One of the key aspects of our LRT program is the close supervision and monitoring provided by our senior technologists and radiology managers. Additionally, our radiologists meticulously evaluate the images produced by LRTs as part of a comprehensive quality assurance program. The results speak for themselves—our LRTs consistently demonstrate high-performance levels comparable to our fully trained Radiology Technologists (RTs).

The educational foundation of our LRT program is robust and comprehensive. LRTs undergo 170 clinical hours under the supervision of certified American Registry of Radiologic Technologists (ARRT) technologists, coupled with a minimum of 115 didactic hours delivered by licensed ARRT-certified RTs holding at least a bachelor's degree. This ensures that LRTs receive thorough instruction and practical experience to excel in their roles.

Since the inception of our LRT program, our dedicated team of LRTs has filled over 240 shifts and completed more than 2,200 diagnostic exams, focusing primarily on the chest, spine, and extremities. Their proficiency and dedication have been instrumental in enhancing the efficiency and effectiveness of our urgent care services.

-more-

The Honorable Pamela Beidle

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Moreover, the LRT program serves as an accessible pathway for Medical Assistants (MAs) to pursue a rewarding career in radiology while working in the urgent care setting. For many of our low-income employees, the LRT program has been a steppingstone toward further education and career development. Half of our LRTs have utilized this opportunity to advance to a full two-year RT program, illustrating the transformative impact of this initiative on their professional growth and trajectory.

In conclusion, the legislation to formally recognize and regulate LRTs is a crucial step toward promoting quality healthcare delivery and fostering career advancement opportunities for healthcare professionals. I urge you to support this legislation, which not only recognizes the valuable contributions of LRTs but also ensures the continued provision of high-quality care to our communities.

Thank you for considering my testimony and I urge a **favorable** vote on HB 934. Should you need additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,



Stephanie Kaldis

Regulatory Manager Radiology Compliance with MedStar Health Urgent Care

cc: Members, House Health & Government Operations Committee
Erin Hopwood, staff