



Date: March 4, 2026,

House Bill 1047 – State Board of Physicians – Delegation of Duties – Alterations

House Health Committee

Position: Favorable

Dear Chair, Bagnall and Members of the Health Committee:

On behalf of LifeBridge Health, including our affiliated urgent care network, ExpressCare, we respectfully submit this testimony in support of House Bill 1047. HB 1047 builds on prior legislative action permitting individuals who have completed the first year of an accredited radiologic technologist program to perform limited-scope X-rays under appropriate physician supervision. By allowing these individuals to apply for limited X-ray licensure, this bill strengthens Maryland's ability to expand access to timely diagnostic services while preserving patient safety and professional standards.

Responding to increasing demand for radiology technologists, ExpressCare Urgent Care Centers in Maryland launched a new Limited X-Ray Machine Operator (LXMO) Program last year and has now graduated its first nine students. The program offers medical assistants with at least 1 year of experience at ExpressCare or Children's Urgent Care the opportunity to earn certification and obtain Maryland Board of Physicians registration. We have several cohorts in various stages of this training process and have several newly licensed limited scope Xray techs who have progressed all the way through this new pathway. These new exemptions have created pipeline for future healthcare team members to professional grow while addressing workforce shortage needs.

Radiologic technologists (RTs) are essential members of the clinical care team. Hospitals and outpatient facilities across Maryland continue to face persistent workforce shortages in this profession. These shortages are particularly acute in urgent care and community-based settings, where timely access to diagnostic imaging directly affects clinical decision-making and patient throughput. For LifeBridge Health and ExpressCare, limited licensure for qualified radiologic technologist students provides a practical and responsible workforce solution. In the urgent care environment, where patients typically present with low-acuity conditions—such as suspected fractures or chest complaints requiring basic imaging—limited-scope X-ray capability is both appropriate and clinically efficient. Enabling trained, supervised individuals to perform chest, extremity, and spine imaging ensures patients receive timely diagnosis without unnecessary delays or referrals.

HB 1047 also reinforces a sustainable workforce pipeline. Radiologic technologist education programs require two years of full-time study. Allowing students who have completed their first year to obtain limited licensure creates an "earn-while-you-learn" pathway.



For a health system like LifeBridge Health, this pathway not only helps address immediate operational needs but also cultivates the next generation of fully licensed RTs who will serve in higher-acuity hospital settings. Importantly, HB 1047 maintains appropriate guardrails. Limited licensure applies only to defined imaging procedures and requires physician supervision. These safeguards ensure that patient safety, quality assurance, and compliance with professional standards remain paramount.

In our ExpressCare centers, structured protocols, physician oversight, and standardized imaging procedures are already integral to operations. Limited licensure aligns with these existing clinical governance frameworks and implemented responsibly without compromising quality of care.

HB 1047 offers a measured, workforce-focused solution that expands access to diagnostic imaging, supports Maryland students pursuing careers in radiologic technology, and strengthens the long-term health care workforce pipeline. For these reasons, LifeBridge Health and ExpressCare respectfully request a favorable report on House Bill 1047.

Respectfully,

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[ExpressCare announces first graduating class from new program](#)

[ExpressCare Program Trains New X-Ray Operators - Journal of Urgent Care Medicine](#)