



Leading Radiology Forward
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TO: The Honorable Heather Bagnall, Chair
The Honorable Bonnie Cullison, Vice Chair
Members, House Health Committee

FROM: Steve Forthuber, President Eastern Operations

DATE: March 2, 2026

RE: **Favorable:** House Bill (HB) 1047 -- *State Board of Physicians – Delegation of Duties – Alterations*

RadNet leads the nation in outpatient diagnostic imaging services with over 400 centers across the United States. We have a major presence in Maryland with our Eastern Headquarters being in Baltimore and having over 60 imaging centers throughout the state. RadNet employs nearly 1,000 Radiologic Technologists (RTs) in total across all of our Maryland imaging centers.

HB 1047 would create a pathway for students in radiologic technology programs who have completed successfully their first year of training to practice as limited x-ray machine operators (LXMOs) under Md. Code, Health Occ. § 14-306. If passed, HB 1047 would go into effect on October 1, 2026.

RadNet, like many other medical imaging providers, is affected negatively by the current serious lack of RTs in Maryland and across the nation. Moreover, we heard from stakeholders who need a ready supply of individuals who could perform a limited range of x-ray procedures. Patient access to care is decreased and care postponed by delays in scheduling exams and cancellations due to lack of RT availability. Healthcare costs increase from higher wages and more overtime. RadNet hosted a summit in September, 2024 in Maryland that was attended by over 100 RTs and industry thought-leaders to discuss and identify solutions to the RT supply problem. We learned that barriers to becoming an RT included: educational affordability, lack of entry-level roles and career progression, and limited opportunities to work in the field while pursuing their education.

HB 1047 is part of the solution to the need for more RTs in Maryland. By allowing students in accredited radiologic technology programs to work as LXMOs while pursuing their RT degree, the workforce of qualified imaging professionals is expanded, thereby increasing patient access and timely patient care. Plus, the RT profession is made more attractive to those considering a career in healthcare.

We commend Delegate Hutchinson for his leadership on this important healthcare workforce issue and recommend a “favorable” report by this committee.

RadNet appreciates the opportunity to provide this statement before House Health Committee.