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MedStar Medical Group Radiology

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SB 830 – Radiation Therapy, Nuclear Medicine Technology, and Radiology
Assistance – Limited Radiologic Technologist
Position: *Support*

February 27, 2024

The Honorable Pamela Beidle
Chair, Senate Finance Committee
3 E Miller Senate Office Building
11 Bladen Street
Annapolis MD 21401

Dear Chair Beidle:

Good afternoon, Chair Beidle, and esteemed members of the Committee. My name is Steven Brick, and I am honored to submit written testimony to you today as a radiologist at MedStar Health. I am here to offer my testimony in wholehearted support of SB 830.

As background, I was Board Certified in Diagnostic Radiology in 1987. For the past 10 years, I have overseen all aspects of Radiology at MedStar Health, including leadership of the professional Radiology practice.

With over three decades of experience, including ten years overseeing Radiology at MedStar Health, I bring a wealth of insight into the matters at hand. Today, I wish to direct your attention to two pivotal aspects of SB 830: the quality of work conducted by limited RTs and the paramount concern of radiation safety.

Quality is the cornerstone of our profession, and it is with great pride that I affirm the exceptional standard upheld by our limited RTs (LRTs). For the past three years, MedStar Health has entrusted LRTs with responsibilities at our Urgent Care sites in DC and VA. Throughout this period, not a single complaint has surfaced regarding the quality of their work. Our radiologists maintain a vigilant eye, swiftly offering feedback on every imaging case. This feedback loop, integral to our commitment to excellence, ensures both commendations for exemplary work and guidance for areas necessitating improvement. Importantly, this process extends to X-rays performed by LRTs, with no disparity observed in the feedback provided compared to that for fully certified RTs.

Turning to the critical matter of radiation safety, I must emphasize the gravity of the risks inherent in X-ray procedures. Patients are vulnerable to potential harm arising from incorrect exposure settings or the need for repeated images due to positioning errors. However, I reassure you that MedStar Health has implemented robust measures to mitigate these risks. Our LRTs undergo rigorous training, with a

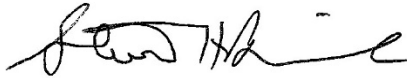
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particular emphasis on exposure settings, closely supervised by senior RTs during clinical training. Furthermore, our XR equipment is equipped with stringent controls to limit over-exposure, bolstering patient safety. Through meticulous monitoring and feedback mechanisms, we have found no discernible difference between the performance of LRTs and fully certified RTs in minimizing the need for repeat images.

In conclusion, I urge the Committee to lend their **support** to SB 830. With the assurance of quality upheld by our LRTs and our unwavering commitment to radiation safety, this bill represents a significant stride forward for patient care. Thank you for your attention and consideration.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Steven H. Brick". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a horizontal line extending to the right.

Steven H. Brick, MD, FACR
Physician Executive Director
MedStar Medical Group Radiology

cc: Members, Senate Finance Committee
David Smulski, Staff