

HB 2613 -- PATIENT SAFETY IN RADIOLOGIC IMAGING

SPONSOR: Higdon

This bill establishes the Missouri radiologic imaging and radiation therapy board of examiners which will be responsible for creating licensure standards. The board will have the authority to examine and determine the qualifications and fitness of applicants for licensure, renewal of licensure and reciprocal licensure. The board will have the authority to issue, renew, deny, suspend or revoke licenses, as well as carry out disciplinary actions.

No person can perform radiologic imaging or administer radiation therapy procedures on humans without being licensed by the board. A person licensed under this bill can only use radioactive substances or equipment emitting ionized radiation or magnetic resonance for radiologic imaging by prescription. Radiologist assistants shall not interpret images, make diagnoses, or prescribe medications or therapies. Radiologist assistants may administer prescribed drugs as directed by the supervising radiologist or radiologist designee. Radiologist assistants may communicate and document initial clinical and imaging observations or procedure details only to the radiologist for the radiologist's use.

This bill establishes minimum requirements for licensure, with additional criteria for applicants for nuclear medicine advanced associate and radiologists assistant and additional restrictions for limited x-ray machine operators.

A program approved by the board in radiography, radiation therapy, nuclear medicine technology, magnetic resonance technology, or limited x-ray machine operation may be offered by a medical facility or educational institution. The program shall be affiliated with one or more hospitals or clinics approved by the board to provide the requisite clinical education.

Any person in violation of this law is guilty of a class A misdemeanor. The board may also assess a civil penalty not in excess of \$200 for violations.