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Good afternoon,

I am writing regarding my concern for a limited scope of licensure for Radiologic Technologist.

I have been a licensed radiologic technologist for over 30 years and have worked in Massachusetts for the past 25 of those years. I currently holding the position of Sr Director and in my tenure have overseen imaging for both emergency departments and urgent care clinics.

The purpose of this amendment is to "promote the redirection of patients not needing emergency level care to urgent care facilities" due to severe capacity challenges, and high volume ED visits. This amendment is not the solution to that problem.

Urgent care clinics treat a wide variety of injuries and illnesses and most urgent care clinics have one radiologic technologist working at a time. Staffing a technologist with a limited license would not be able to support the needs of the wide range of patient needs. Instead, it would limit the abilities of the urgent care center to appropriately meet the needs of the patient population. If the urgent care center cannot meet the needs of the patients that would ultimately drive patients back to the emergency departments that we are trying to deviate away from. The other option for the urgent care clinics would be to staff more than one technologist at a time which is not financially responsible, or even possible with the current shortage of technologists.

While I do feel that there may be a place for a limited scope licensure to support speciality private practices, it will not help with overcrowding of our emergency department and support our urgent care clinics. Patients need to be well informed of the amazing services that our urgent care clinics can provide. And they can only provide that excellent care by support of the highly talented skill professionals they employ.

I appreciate the ability to comment on this very important matter. Thank you.

Laura L. Chapman BS, R.T. (R)