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My name is Shawn Fern, and I am a R.T. (R)(NM)(CT). I am submitting this testimony in opposition to the implementation of limited-scope radiography in Massachusetts.

Patient safety and diagnostic accuracy must remain the top priorities in medical imaging. Radiologic Technologists undergo extensive education and clinical training to ensure proper imaging techniques, radiation safety, and high-quality diagnostic results. In contrast, Limited- Scope X-ray Machine Operators (LXMOs) receive significantly less training, which raises concerns about image quality, increased radiation exposure, and potential misdiagnoses.

Poorly positioned or low-quality images can lead to repeat exposures, unnecessary delays in care, and increased healthcare costs.

Massachusetts is known for its high standards in patient care. Lowering qualifications for individuals performing X-ray exams risks compromising the safety and effectiveness of diagnostic imaging. I stand in full support of the Massachusetts Society of Radiologic Technologists (MSRT) and their recommendations to uphold strong professional standards for radiologic imaging.

I urge the Department of Public Health to carefully consider these concerns and ensure that any changes to radiologic licensing regulations prioritize patient well-being and maintain the integrity of our profession.

Thank you for your time and consideration. Sincerely, Shawn Fern RT(R)(CT)(NM)

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Southcoast Hospitals Group, which includes Charlton Memorial Hospital, St. Luke’s Hospital and Tobey Hospital, is a 2024 Newsweek’s World’s Best Hospital.

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