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S.B. 236
133rd General Assembly

Bill Analysis

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Version: As Reported by Senate Health, Human Services and Medicaid

Primary Sponsor: Sen. S. Huffman

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SUMMARY

- Requires that rules regarding Ohio's Radiation Control Program be adopted by considering the *Suggested State Regulations for Control of Radiation* and various federal regulations, rather than by using standards that are no less stringent than those sources.
- Specifies that one of the activities radiographers and nuclear medicine technologists are licensed to perform is to document orders for contrast and radio-pharmaceuticals, respectively, in patient medical records.
- Requires a radiographer and a nuclear medicine technologist to practice in a manner that is consistent with a definitive set of treatment guidelines approved by the clinical leadership of the institution where the radiographer or technologist practices.

DETAILED ANALYSIS

Radiation Control Program rules

Under current law, the Director of Health is required to adopt rules regarding licensure of facilities that handle radioactive material and registration of facilities that handle radiation-generating equipment. The Director also must adopt rules identifying sources of radiation; its possession, use, and disposal; and levels of radiation that constitute an unreasonable or unnecessary risk to health or the environment.

The bill removes an existing requirement that the rules be adopted by using standards that are no less stringent than the *Suggested State Regulations for Control of Radiation*, which is prepared by the Conference of Radiation Control Program Directors, Inc.,¹ and various federal

¹ Conference of Radiation Control Program Directors, Inc., *Suggested State Regulations for Control of Radiation*, <https://www.crcpd.org/page/SSRCRs>.

regulations. Instead, the bill requires the Director to adopt the rules by considering those sources, in addition to the following that must be considered under current law:

- Reports of the National Council on Radiation Protection and Measurements;
- Relevant standards of the American National Standards Institute.²

Current law also requires that the handler rules be compatible with applicable federal regulations.³

Practice by radiographers and nuclear medicine technologists

Documentation of orders in patient medical records

The bill authorizes radiographers and nuclear medicine technologists, through their licenses, to document orders for contrast and radio-pharmaceuticals, respectively, in patient medical records.⁴ This is in addition to the following activities that they are licensed to perform:

- Radiographer – operating ionizing radiation-generating equipment, administering contrast, and determining procedure positioning and the dosage of ionizing radiation, all in order to perform a comprehensive scope of radiology procedures.⁵
- Nuclear medicine technologist – preparing and administering radio-pharmaceuticals to human beings and conducting in vivo or in vitro detection and measurement of radioactivity for medical purposes.⁶

Treatment guidelines

The bill requires that a radiographer and a nuclear medicine technologist practice in a manner that is consistent with a definitive set of treatment guidelines approved by the clinical leadership, including the medical director and director of radiology, of the institution where the radiographer or technologist practices.⁷ This includes when a nuclear medicine technologist is performing computed tomography procedures, as authorized by existing law.⁸

² R.C. 3748.04(B)(3).

³ R.C. 3748.04(A).

⁴ R.C. 4773.01(F) and (H); R.C. 4773.02, not in the bill.

⁵ R.C. 4773.01(H).

⁶ R.C. 4773.01(F).

⁷ R.C. 4773.10.

⁸ R.C. 4773.061.

HISTORY

Action	Date
Introduced	11-12-19
Reported, S. Health, Human Services & Medicaid	02-06-20
