



Dear WSRT Colleagues,

Please read below the memo from Michael Blumenfeld (MB) regarding the conclusion of the legislative session. On the ASRT/ARRT conference call last Friday, MB reported to all that we "should be very proud that we were able to stop this effort." The 3 legislative measures that we were facing including the Sunset Bill (of our regulations and others), the bill that legislated the occupational licensure review council, and the self-certification bill did not progress, and so are dead. Simply put, without the advocacy of those who testified against these measures, those who wrote or called their legislators, and MB and Erin Fabrizio's work, our licensure and professional status would not have survived this session. To those of you who engaged, this victory is because of **you**.

There is little time to celebrate, however. Even though SB/288/AB369, the bill that legislated the review of all occupational licenses did not progress, the provision for the Dept of Safety and Professional Services (DPS) to conduct the study passed in the state budget in 2017. Thanks again to Kyle Theine and his students, Susan Sanson, and Randy Griswold who traveled far to testify on our behalf at the budgetary hearings. To review, our testimony defeated the dissolution of our Radiography Examining Board and transfer of its duties to the Medical Examining Board that was part of the budget. But the study to review all occupational licenses and recommend removal of some will continue due to the budgetary provision. It supercedes the bill that did not progress. On our call last Friday, MB reported that this effort will ramp up quickly. The ASRT and ARRT will be contributing to the information we will have to present to the DPS to defend our licensure. I have volunteered to be the repository of this information. MB and EF will be keeping us up to date on this DPS study. If you have any articles or information, or personal testimony that helps us in this cause, please bring this to the WSRT Board meeting or forward to me in email asap. Some of you have personally witnessed the value of a registered technologist in venues that prior to our licensure law, medical assistants and lesser educated were allowed to perform radiography. Please take the time to write how you have seen the improvement of patient care with a licensed radiographer. I will be happy to format it with you for presentation with our other information to the DPS. This study is the reason that we have fostered a relationship with Laura Gutierrez, DPS Secretary and her assistant Kirsten Reader. Kyle, Director of the School at Froedtert, Hospital, and I conducted a tour of the department and school with these two officials in anticipation of this study in August 2017. Thank you again Kyle for all your work which seemed to make a clear impact on Ms. Gutierrez. Randy and I have met with her in Madison as well. Going forward, defense of our professional status and

licensure will be the focus of our efforts as this study moves along. MB stated that the Secretary will be forced to put some professions on the "chopping block." We cannot be one of them. Stay tuned for potential action items. Our engagement must continue.

Congratulations WSRT on a job well done.....so far! If anyone wonders what the WSRT does for radiologic professionals in the state, advocacy for technologists, our profession and patients is a major focus of its activities.

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Legislative Committee Chairperson