



WSRT Legislative Committee Report  
February 10, 2018 Teleconference  
Sandra Helinski, RTR, QM, MR  
Legislative Committee Chairperson

The WSRT Legislative Committee represented by Sandra Helinski and Randy Griswold has continued to meet with ASRT and ARRT staff, and Michael Blumenfeld and Erin Fabrizius of Blumenfeld and Associates on a biweekly conference call to discuss the current legislative activities and strategies. Linda Colano, Member at Large, former Legislative Committee member has offered her services to the committee on an ad-hoc basis.

To review, there are three bills pending that of interest to our profession:

**Assembly Bill 370/Senate Bill 296** creates a self-certification registry and directs the Dept of Safety and Professional Services to recommend moving certain occupations from licensure to self-certification. It is our understanding that "self -certification" occupations would allow for persons to apply for a "state -certified" title based on to-be -determined criteria, but would not require it to practice.

**Assembly Bill 384—Sunset Bill**

This bill would remove any administrative rule (regulation) after 9 years of being enacted. This bill passed through the Assembly, the result of an amendment that increased the sunset period from 7 to 9 years. This bill received a public hearing on February 6. We were advised not to attend this hearing as this bill may not have the support it needs from Senate leadership and may be stalled. Erin and Michael reported that most of the testimony was against the bill, and they will continue to monitor.

**Assembly Bill 369/Senate Bill 288** would create an Occupational Licensure Review Council tasked with reviewing all occupational licensure laws in the state and recommending licenses for elimination. This bill has passed out of the Senate Committee that Randy and I testified before last August and has not received any other action. No full Senate vote is scheduled at the date of this report.

Regardless of whether this bill progresses, the State Budget included the provision to perform the study that the DSPS will conduct to review all professions with potential elimination of licensure

status for many.. Each occupation will be reviewed by the deadline of December 31, 2018 which will be a huge task. In the last meeting with DSPS Secretary Gutierrez, she and her assistant Kirsten Reader asked for any information that we can find that will support the case of having an educated, licensed technologist. If anyone has any knowledge of a case where a patient was harmed by unlicensed personnel, or any articles you have come across that supports the reasons for educated, competent technologists, please forward to Randy or me. We are in the process of gathering info to present to the DSPS. Michael believes that March will be the month when this effort will ramp up, as the legislature may be in recess at this time, and we will need to be ready. The potential of opening up the performance of radiography to incompetent personnel, not verified by licensure is not in the best interests of our patients, nor our profession. This will be our major focus in the weeks to come after the legislature adjourns.

Another matter to keep our eye on is the National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL) Licensure project. The NCSL cites the “growth in licensure requirements and the need to strike the right balance between public safety and preserving free practice.” The NCSL convened a consortium of eleven states, including Wisconsin to study occupational license requirements for 34 occupations, including radiography. Its first meeting was held December 4-6 in Tucson. Erin reports that “while the report released discusses the benefits of licensure.” it also reports that it “devoted a significant amount of time “citing barriers to employment, higher prices for consumers, hampering entrepreneurship and other drawbacks that have been used to justify the legislative measures we are currently monitoring. The NCSL report contains inaccuracies about the radiologic technologist profession according to ASRT staff and they are working on a response. The NCSL is on our radar through the work of Blumenfeld and Associates.

The WSRT legislative committee will continue to work to uphold the licensure status of Wisconsin’s radiologic technologists, and the value of the diagnostic work radiologic technologists perform for the people of Wisconsin. We are grateful for the collaboration with ASRT and ARRT staff, and the indispensable work of Blumenfeld and Associates.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sandra Helinski  
WSRT Legislative Committee Chair