



Wisconsin Society of Radiologic Technologists

April 11, 2022

Dear Region 5 CRTA colleagues,

The following is a summary of the most recent legislative developments impacting the licensure of radiologic technologists in the state of Wisconsin:

SB 232/AB217 PROVISIONAL LICENSURE would have required the DSPS to draft rules to set up a process for creation of a provisional license for persons who have applied, but are awaiting final approval. The individual credentialing boards, such as our Radiography Examining Board would have been allowed to set up their own rules that could supercede DSPS rules. The WSRT was in favor of this legislation as approval of the granting of provisional licenses remained in the control of our own the Radiography Examining board. Also, timely decisions would be made to allow qualified and credentialed applicants to begin working in their field, BY those working in the radiologic profession. This law did **not** pass in this legislative session and will have to be reintroduced next session.

AB 218/SB 233 PASSIVE LICENSURE REVIEW was a similar bill that required prompt review of licensure applications by a passive process. A 10-day limit is placed on the DSPS to issue a license once the respective occupational licensing board, our REB for example, approves the applicant's credentials. The DSPS must still ensure that the applicant satisfies eligibility requirements as set forth in the radiography licensure law (Chapter 462 State Statutes) including review of arrest and conviction records. The WSRT supported this legislation for the same reasons as the previous bill along with the fact that the integrity of the individual practicing in the field is upheld through DSPS review. **This bill was signed into law by Governor Evers on December 7, 2021 as 2021 Wisconsin Act 118.**

Last week we were made aware that our Legislature is looking at creating a Legislative Council Study Committee on Occupational Licenses. These Committees meet during the Legislative interim to look into policy issues and make recommendations for legislation.

According to a document released by Legislative Council, the Committee would be chaired by Senator Rob Stafsholt (R-New Richmond) and Vice-Chaired by Representative Shae Sortwell (R-Two Rivers) and the charge of the Committee would be as follows:

The study committee is directed to review the current occupational licensing system administered by the Department of Safety and Professional Services. The committee shall review prior recommendations made by the department regarding any current laws requiring occupational credentials that may be eliminated without clearly harming or endangering the health, safety, or welfare of the public. The committee shall also review whether it is necessary to implement systems of review both to determine the necessity of legislative proposals for new occupational

credentials, and to periodically review the appropriateness of maintaining current occupational credential requirements. Lastly, the committee shall review options to expand access to individuals from other states to receive a reciprocal credential to practice in Wisconsin. Following these reviews, the committee shall - 2 - recommend legislation on current credentials that may be eliminated, on systems for review of new and existing occupational credentials, and on the issuance of reciprocal credentials.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL STUDY COMMITTEE BALLOT : The Joint Legislative Council has circulated a paper ballot with recommendations for establishing six study committees and the appointment of chairs and vice chairs. The ballot is due April 15. The proposed study committees are:

- Study Committee on the Commercial Building Permitting Process.
- Study Committee on Increasing Offender Employment Opportunities.
- **Study Committee on Occupational Licenses.**
- Study Committee on Shared School District Services.
- Study Committee on Uniform Death Reporting Standards.
- Study Committee on Wisconsin National Guard Sexual Misconduct Procedures.

Wisconsin will have a highly contested gubernatorial election this fall. By the announcement of this committee, it is clear that occupational licensure will again be a target issue, especially if the political party of the governor's office changes to Republican. Currently, the legislature is of a Republican majority. We will have to be ready to defend our licensure on the grounds of public health, safety and welfare.

Respectfully submitted,

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WSRT Legislative Committee Chairperson