Dear State Legislator,

It has recently been brought to the attention of many radiologic technologists in the state of Kentucky, that a recent bill proposal would allow Advanced Practice Registered Nurses (APRN) to operate radiation-producing equipment without proper training and certification. As a skilled professional who is knowledgeable in the risks of medical imaging, I strongly urge Kentucky lawmakers to reconsider the passing of House Bill 296. This bill would make APRN’s exempt from radiologic technology licensure requirements.

Without the proper education and certification, an individual can severely harm a patient. Misuse of radiation can result in serious acute and chronic side effects including skin burns and an increased chance of developing cancer later in life. These radiation risks are especially crucial when one is considering the utilization of fluoroscopy, which is an imaging procedure with extended exposure times to radiation. To ensure that a patient is not harmed as a result of medical imaging procedures, radiologic technologists have to undergo specific certification and state licensing processes. Allowing an unqualified healthcare provider to operate radiographic equipment would completely jeopardize the quality of radiation safety that members of my profession strive so hard to uphold.

 If one of your loved ones was having a potentially hazardous radiation beam being emitted through their body, wouldn’t you want someone certified and state licensed to be operating that equipment? I trust that the members of Kentucky’s legislative body want to maintain the superior quality of healthcare that is given here in the beautiful Commonwealth of Kentucky. Please consider the passing of House Bill 296. Thank you so much.

Sincerely,

A Concerned Radiologic Technologists