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HOUSE BILL 2430

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State of Washington                      61st Legislature                      2010 Regular Session

By Representatives Morrell, Driscoll, Hinkle, Blake, Walsh, Green, Roberts, Goodman, Clibborn, Carlyle, Moeller, Kelley, and Hurst

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1            AN ACT Relating to cardiovascular invasive specialists; amending  
2 RCW 18.84.020 and 18.84.080; adding a new section to chapter 18.84 RCW;  
3 and creating a new section.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

5            **Sec. 1.** RCW 18.84.020 and 2008 c 246 s 2 are each amended to read  
6 as follows:

7            The definitions in this section apply throughout this chapter  
8 unless the context clearly requires otherwise.

9            (1) "Department" means the department of health.

10           (2) "Secretary" means the secretary of health.

11           (3) "Licensed practitioner" means any licensed health care  
12 practitioner performing services within the person's authorized scope  
13 of practice.

14           (4) "Radiologic technologist" means an individual certified under  
15 this chapter, other than a licensed practitioner, who practices  
16 radiologic technology as a:

17           (a) Diagnostic radiologic technologist, who is a person who  
18 actually handles X-ray equipment in the process of applying radiation  
19 on a human being for diagnostic purposes at the direction of a licensed

1 practitioner, this includes parenteral procedures related to radiologic  
2 technology when performed under the direct supervision of a physician  
3 licensed under chapter 18.71 or 18.57 RCW;

4 (b) Therapeutic radiologic technologist, who is a person who uses  
5 radiation-generating equipment for therapeutic purposes on human  
6 subjects at the direction of a licensed practitioner, this includes  
7 parenteral procedures related to radiologic technology when performed  
8 under the direct supervision of a physician licensed under chapter  
9 18.71 or 18.57 RCW;

10 (c) Nuclear medicine technologist, who is a person who prepares  
11 radiopharmaceuticals and administers them to human beings for  
12 diagnostic and therapeutic purposes and who performs in vivo and in  
13 vitro detection and measurement of radioactivity for medical purposes  
14 at the direction of a licensed practitioner; (~~or~~)

15 (d) Radiologist assistant, who is an advanced-level certified  
16 diagnostic radiologic technologist who assists radiologists by  
17 performing advanced diagnostic imaging procedures as determined by rule  
18 under levels of supervision defined by the secretary, this includes but  
19 is not limited to enteral and parenteral procedures when performed  
20 under the direction of the supervising radiologist, and that these  
21 procedures may include injecting diagnostic agents to sites other than  
22 intravenous, performing diagnostic aspirations and localizations, and  
23 assisting radiologists with other invasive procedures; or

24 (e) Cardiovascular invasive specialist, who is a person who assists  
25 in cardiac or vascular catheterization procedures under the personal  
26 supervision of a physician licensed under chapter 18.71 or 18.57 RCW.  
27 This includes parenteral procedures related to radiologic technology  
28 including, but not limited to, parenteral procedures involving  
29 arteries.

30 (5) "Approved school of radiologic technology" means a school of  
31 radiologic technology, cardiovascular invasive specialist program, or  
32 radiologist assistant program approved by the secretary or a school  
33 found to maintain the equivalent of such a course of study as  
34 determined by the department. Such school may be operated by a medical  
35 or educational institution, and for the purpose of providing (~~the~~)  
36 any requisite clinical experience, shall be affiliated with one or more  
37 general hospitals.

1 (6) "Approved cardiovascular invasive specialist program" or  
2 "approved radiologist assistant program" means a school approved by the  
3 secretary. The secretary may recognize other organizations that  
4 establish standards for radiologist assistant programs or  
5 cardiovascular invasive specialist programs and designate schools that  
6 meet the organization's standards as approved.

7 (7) "Radiologic technology" means the use of ionizing radiation  
8 upon a human being for diagnostic or therapeutic purposes.

9 (8) "Radiologist" means a physician certified by the American board  
10 of radiology or the American osteopathic board of radiology.

11 (9) "Registered X-ray technician" means a person who is registered  
12 with the department, and who applies ionizing radiation at the  
13 direction of a licensed practitioner and who does not perform  
14 parenteral procedures.

15 (10) "Cardiac or vascular catheterization" means all anatomic or  
16 physiological studies of intervention, both diagnostic and therapeutic,  
17 in which the heart, coronary arteries, or vascular system are entered  
18 via a systemic vein or artery using a catheter that is manipulated  
19 under fluoroscopic visualization.

20 **Sec. 2.** RCW 18.84.080 and 2008 c 246 s 5 are each amended to read  
21 as follows:

22 (1) The secretary shall issue a certificate to any applicant who  
23 demonstrates to the secretary's satisfaction, that the following  
24 requirements have been met to practice as:

25 (a) A diagnostic radiologic technologist, therapeutic radiologic  
26 technologist, or nuclear medicine technologist:

27 (i) Graduation from an approved school or successful completion of  
28 alternate training that meets the criteria established by the  
29 secretary;

30 (ii) Satisfactory completion of a radiologic technologist  
31 examination approved by the secretary; and

32 (iii) Good moral character; (~~(e)~~)

33 (b) A radiologist assistant:

34 (i) Satisfactory completion of an approved radiologist assistant  
35 program;

36 (ii) Satisfactory completion of a radiologist assistant examination  
37 approved by the secretary; and

1 (iii) Good moral character; or

2 (c) A cardiovascular invasive specialist:

3 (i) Satisfactory completion of a cardiovascular invasive specialist  
4 program approved by the secretary. The secretary may only approve  
5 those programs that include training in the following subjects:  
6 Cardiovascular anatomy and physiology, pharmacology, radiation physics  
7 and safety, radiation imaging and positioning, medical recordkeeping,  
8 and multicultural health as required by RCW 43.70.615(3);

9 (ii) Satisfactory completion of a cardiovascular invasive  
10 specialist examination approved by the secretary. For purposes of this  
11 subsection (1)(c)(ii), the secretary may approve an examination  
12 administered by a national credentialing organization for  
13 cardiovascular invasive specialists; and

14 (iii) Good moral character.

15 (2) Applicants shall be subject to the grounds for denial or  
16 issuance of a conditional license under chapter 18.130 RCW.

17 (3) The secretary shall establish by rule what constitutes adequate  
18 proof of meeting the requirements for certification and for designation  
19 of certification in a particular field of radiologic technology.

20 NEW SECTION. Sec. 3. A new section is added to chapter 18.84 RCW  
21 to read as follows:

22 (1) Until July 1, 2012, the secretary shall, in addition to  
23 certificates issued under RCW 18.84.080, issue a cardiovascular  
24 invasive specialist certificate to any person who:

25 (a) Holds a certificate in good standing under this chapter as  
26 another type of radiologic technologist; and

27 (b) Has at least five years of prior experience in cardiac or  
28 vascular catheterization.

29 (2) A person certified as a cardiovascular invasive specialist  
30 under this section is subject to the same renewal requirements as all  
31 other certified cardiovascular invasive specialists, but shall not be  
32 subject to the education and examination requirements, unless he or she  
33 allows his or her certification to expire without renewal for more than  
34 one year. If the person allows his or her certification to expire  
35 without renewal for more than one year, he or she must meet the same  
36 education and examination requirements as all other certified

1 cardiovascular invasive specialists before being issued a new  
2 certification.

3 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** Nothing in this act shall be interpreted to  
4 alter the scope of practice of any other credentialed health profession  
5 or to limit the ability of any other credentialed health professional  
6 to assist in cardiac or vascular catheterization if such assistance is  
7 within the professional's scope of practice.

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