Bill as Introduced

SB 341 - AS INTRODUCED

2000 SESSION

00-2743
10/09

SENATE BILL ***341***

AN ACT extending the reporting date of the committee to study the licensure of radiographers and radiologic technologists.

SPONSORS: Sen. Wheeler, Dist 21; Sen. Squires, Dist 12; Sen. Krueger, Dist 16; Rep. Goulet, Hills 15; Rep. Stickney, Rock 26; Rep. Virtue, Merr 9

COMMITTEE: Public Institutions, Health and Human Services

ANALYSIS

This bill extends for one year the reporting date of the committee to study the licensure of radiographers and radiologic technologists.

This bill is a request of the study committee established in 1999, 96.

Explanation: Matter added to current law appears in ***bold italics.***
Matter removed from current law appears [~~in brackets and struckthrough.~~]
Matter which is either (a) all new or (b) repealed and reenacted appears in regular type.

SB 341- AS INTRODUCED

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STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

In the Year of Our Lord Two Thousand

AN ACT extending the reporting date of the committee to study the licensure of radiographers and radiologic technologists.

Be it Enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court convened:

1 Reporting Date Extended. Amend 1999, 96:5 to read as follows:

96:5 Report. The committee shall report its findings and any recommendations for proposed legislation to the senate president, the speaker of the house of representatives, the senate clerk, the house clerk, the governor, and the state library on or before November 1, [~~1999~~] ***2000***.

2 Effective Date. This act shall take effect upon its passage.

Amendments

Public Institutions, Health and Human Services
January 12, 2000
2000-3068s
10/09

Amendment to SB 341

Amend the title of the bill by replacing it with the following:

AN ACT extending the reporting date and changing the name of the committee to study the licensure of radiologic technologists.

Amend the bill by inserting after section enacting clause the following and renumbering the original sections 1 and 2 to read as 3 and 4, respectively:

1 Committee Name Changed. Amend 1999, 96:1 to read as follows:

96:1 Committee Established. There is established a committee to study the licensure of [~~radiographers and~~] radiologic technologists.

2 Duties. Amend the introductory paragraph of 1999, 96:3 to read as follows:

96:3 Duties. The committee shall study the licensure of [~~radiographers,~~] radiologic technologists, and the inclusion or exception for persons operating x-ray systems designed for the irradiation of part of the human body for diagnostic or therapeutic purposes. The committee shall seek input from persons or representatives of the following:

2000-3068s

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill extends the reporting date and changes the name of the committee to study the licensure of radiologic technologists.

Committee Minutes

Date: January 11, 2000
Time: 1:15 pm
Room: LOB 102

The Senate Committee on Public Institutions/Health Human Services held a hearing on the following:

SB 341 extending the reporting date of the committee to study the licensure of radiographers and radiologic technologists.

Members of Committee present: Senator Squires
Senator Wheeler
Senator Gordon
Senator Krueger

The Chair, Senator James Squires, opened the hearing.

Senator Katherine W. Wheeler, D. 21: Written testimony handed in. **See Attachment A.** When I had my mammogram a few weeks ago I noticed that hanging on the wall of the room where I had it is the equipment is licensed but there's absolutely nothing about the person operating the equipment. So I was glad to know that I had really safe equipment. (laughter) I actually had full confidence in the person operating the equipment but there was nothing the State did to make sure that I had that kind of confidence. So I would appreciate your support for this. Thank you very much.

Senator James W. Squires, D. 12: In the context of this bill, what is the definition of a "radiographer"?

Senator Katherine W. Wheeler, D. 21: I don't know that we defined it in the bill and that maybe something that we need to do in the study committee too because I have just been informally calling everybody an x-ray tech and clearly that's not quite right either.

Senator James W. Squires, D. 12: Yes.

Dr. Nancy Beaurivage, Dartmouth-Hitchcock: At one of our sessions, Dr. Squires, we had talked about the definition and the term that we should be using is "Radiologic Technologist".

Senator Katherine W. Wheeler, D. 21: So Dr. Beaurivage is going to testify, I think, so we could probably clear that up but I will correct my testimony to use just the term "Radiologic Technologist". Is that what we should do?

Senator Patricia Krueger, D. 16: Do you want to take it out, I'm sorry Mr. Chairman, would you like to take that out of the title of the bill, Senator Wheeler? Take out "radiographer"?

Senator Katherine W. Wheeler, D. 21: Probably. Probably but why don't you ask that question of Dr. Beaurivage when she testifies and then that will probably be an excellent idea.

Senator James W. Squires, D. 12: Any other questions? Thank you.

Senator Katherine W. Wheeler, D. 21: Thank you.

Senator James W. Squires, D. 12: Dr. Beaurivarg.

Dr. Nancy Beaurivage, Dartmouth-Hitchcock: I am Dr. Nancy Beaurivage and I am a radiologist representing NH Radiology Society. We are in favor of if not licensure some methods that the State of New Hampshire could assess adequate training and competence of the individuals who take x-rays known as radiologic technologists. During our past meetings a lot of information came to light and I think that we want to look at this as a consumer health protection issue and we also want to look at ways of implementing this in most fiscally conservative way that we can and we have just begun to identify the issues of how shall we implement such a process, what form would it take and what would we do with the individuals who are practicing now? Those are the questions I think we need to look more into and that's why I hope that we'll continue the study committee.

Senator James W. Squires, D. 12: Dr. Beaurivarg, the bill seems to suggest that they're two different positions, radiographers and radiologic technologists which I must say the x-ray tech (laughter). I'm having trouble getting that terminology out of my mind but what is a radiographer?

Dr. Beaurivarg: That's another name for an x-ray technologist but just that the correct term for these professionals that do take the x-rays is radiologic technologist. That's the accepted term now.

Senator James W. Squires, D. 12: So do we need radiographer in the bill?

Dr. Beaurivarg: I think we can eliminate the term "radiographer".

Senator James W. Squires, D. 12: Any other questions? Thank you. Would anyone else like to speak? Palmer Jones. Are you speaking in favor or opposed to this bill?

Palmer Jones, NH Medical Society: In support of the continuation and based on the series of five to six meetings that we've had and the interaction that we've had with doctors offices both in more rural areas and doctors offices in more urban areas clearly, the background and the training of the radiological technologist that they used is at different levels and the key was that as we gathered information we found that that there was not the criteria I think we need to establish. So, the hope was with the extension of time we could be able to establish some type of criteria that may eventually lead to the licensing of these individuals but clearly small doctors offices, bigger doctors offices all have different approaches to it and there's justifiable reason when you talk to them why they do that. Right now it is a mix and what we need to do is take the time to better understand the rural versus the urban, what some people do and then how some people read an x-ray and then send it over to a hospital for a follow-up reading so there's a lot of confusion about those issues. So it's a good learning process and I think we need just more time to continue to do that. Thank you.

Senator James W. Squires, D. 12: Yes Sir.

Henry Doherty, NH Dental Society: Thank you. My name is Henry Doherty from the NH Dental Society. I'd just like to point out that we're in support of extending the study and I'd also like to point out that the Dental Practice Act in the state of New Hampshire does have the training requirements for anyone taking x-rays in a dental office. The three people in a dental office that can take x-rays properly trained, the dentist, the dental hygienist and a qualified dental assistant. Again we would support the study and like to include the dental team in it. They're not known as x-ray technicians or anything. They're called hygienist, dental assistant or dentist.

Senator Katherine W. Wheeler, D. 21: Can I ask Henry a question?

Senator James W. Squires, D. 12: Sure.

Senator Katherine W. Wheeler, D. 21: Henry, what did you just say as far as whether the dentists want to have their offices included?

Mr. Doherty: They are already included in the law right now. In other words there are rules in the Practice Act that establish a training for anyone taking x-rays.

Senator Katherine W. Wheeler, D. 21: Thank you, I misunderstood.

Senator James W. Squires, D. 12: Is there anyone else wishing to testify? Seeing none I will close the hearing on SB 341.

Hearing closed at 1:35 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Merideth Chandler,
Committee Secretary

Attachment A

The Senate of the State of New Hampshire

107 N. Main Street, Room 302, Concord, N.H. 03301-4951

KATHERINE WELLS WHEELER
Vice President - Operations
District 21

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January 11, 1999

To Senator Squires and Members of the Public Institutions, Health and Human Services Study Committee:

As Chair of the Committee to Study the Licensure of Radiographers and Radiologic Technologists, I am here to testify in support of SB 341. This legislation extends the life of the study committee. Our committee met five times, August through October of 1999. As charged, the committee studied the licensure of radiologic technologists and the inclusion or exception for persons operating x-ray systems designed for the irradiation of part of the human body for diagnostic or therapeutic purposes. We sought input from registered radiologic technologists, the Department of Health and Human Services, and physicians, podiatrists, dentists, and other professionals utilizing or operating x-ray systems.

The committee's discussions centered on the issues surrounding licensure of radiologic technologists in this state. It is important to note that NH currently has no law requiring licensure of radiologic technologists, nor is there any law requiring NH hospitals or other facilities to hire "certified" radiologic technologists. The committee members agreed that it is necessary to have some state guarantee that radiologic technologists are appropriately trained and educated so as not to cause harm or endanger themselves or the citizens of NH. However, the committee has yet to determine the most appropriate method and means for implementing such oversight. The committee members agreed that we need more time to address these issues responsibly and in a manner that will not adversely affect the citizens of the state.

Therefore, I would urge you to support the extension of this study committee as the members have yet to address several critical issues that were raised during the course of our work, issues such as:

- **Should the state require licensure or some other means of oversight for radiologic technologists?**
- **If licensure is required, would this limit access for those living in rural areas of the state?**
- **Should a separate board of registration for radiologic technology be created?**
- **Should the legislature pass enabling legislation for the NH Board of Medicine and other related boards to pass rules regulating the training and educational requirements for radiologic technicians?**

I would greatly appreciate your support in our continued efforts. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Katherine Wells Wheeler

Senator Katherine Wells Wheeler

Speakers

SENATE PI-HHS COMMITTEE

Date 01/11/00 Time 1:15 PM Public Hearing on SB 341

Appearing in FAVOR: (Please print) **Please check box at left to speak.**

Speaking?	Name	Address	Representing
☑	DIANE E. TEFFT	NH Bureau of Radiological H/Hs	DHHS
☑	Nancy Beauvillage, MD	Dartmouth-Hitchcock	NH Radiology Society
☑	Sen Katrina Wheeler	District 21	
☑	PALMER JONES		NH MED. SOCIETY
☑	HENRY DOUGHERTY		NH DENTAL SOC.
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Appearing in OPPOSITION: (Please Print) **Please check box at left to speak.**

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Committee Report

Date: January 11, 2000 Time: 1:15 PM

The Senate Committee on Public Institutions/Health Human Services held its hearing in Room LOB 102, Concord, New Hampshire.

BILL NO.: SB 341 TITLE: extending the reporting date of the committee to study the licensure of radiographers and radiologic technologists.

Members of the Committee present: Senator Squires
Senator Wheeler
Senator Gordon
Senator Krueger

Those appearing in favor:

Name and Address	Representing
See Attached.	

Those appearing in opposition:

Name and Address	Representing
See Attached.	

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE:

- ☐ Ought to Pass
- ☒ Ought to Pass w/ Amendment
- ☐ Inexpedient to Legislate
- ☐ Rereferred
- ☐ Interim Study
- ☐ Continued Hearing
- ☐ Postponed Hearing

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

SENATE

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE

Date: January 12, 2000

THE COMMITTEE ON Public Institutions/Health Human Services

to which was referred Senate Bill 341

AN ACT extending the reporting date of the committee to study the licensure of radiographers and radiologic technologists.

VOTE: 4-0

2000-3068s

Having considered the same, report the same with the following amendment and recommend that the bill: **AS AMENDED OUGHT TO PASS.**

Senator Katie Wheeler
For the Committee