

By: Representative White

To: Public Health and Human Services

HOUSE BILL NO. 895

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTIONS 41-58-1, 41-58-3 AND 41-58-5,  
2 MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO EXTEND THE DATE OF THE REPEALERS ON  
3 THOSE STATUTES ESTABLISHING REGISTRATION AND CONTINUING EDUCATION  
4 REQUIREMENTS FOR MEDICAL RADIATION TECHNOLOGISTS; AND FOR RELATED  
5 PURPOSES.

6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI:

7 **SECTION 1.** Section 41-58-1, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
8 amended as follows:

9 41-58-1. As used in this chapter:

10 (a) "Department" means the Mississippi State Department  
11 of Health.

12 (b) "Licensed practitioner" means a person licensed or  
13 otherwise authorized by law to practice medicine, dentistry,  
14 chiropractic, osteopathy or podiatry, or a licensed nurse  
15 practitioner or physician assistant.

16 (c) "Ionizing radiation" means x-rays and gamma rays,  
17 alpha and beta particles, high-speed electrons, neutrons and other  
18 nuclear particles.



19 (d) "X-radiation" means penetrating electromagnetic  
20 radiation with wavelengths shorter than ten (10) nanometers  
21 produced by bombarding a metallic target with fast electrons in a  
22 vacuum.

23 (e) "Supervision" means responsibility for, and control  
24 of, quality radiation safety and protection, and technical aspects  
25 of the application of ionizing radiation to human beings for  
26 diagnostic and/or therapeutic purposes.

27 (f) "Medical radiation technology" means the science  
28 and art of applying ionizing radiation to human beings for  
29 diagnostic and/or therapeutic purposes. The four (4) specialized  
30 disciplines of medical radiation technology are diagnostic  
31 radiologic technology, nuclear medicine technology, radiation  
32 therapy and limited x-ray machine operator.

33 (g) "Radiologic technologist" means a person other than  
34 a licensed practitioner who has passed a national certification  
35 examination recognized by the department such as the American  
36 Registry of Radiologic Technologists examination or its  
37 equivalent, who applies x-radiation or ionizing radiation to any  
38 part of the human body for diagnostic purposes and includes the  
39 administration of parenteral and enteral contrast media and  
40 administration of other medications or procedures incidental to  
41 radiologic examinations.

42 (h) "Nuclear medicine technologist" means a person  
43 other than a licensed practitioner who has passed a national



44 certification examination recognized by the department such as the  
45 American Registry of Radiologic Technologists examination or the  
46 Nuclear Medicine Technology Certification Board examination or its  
47 equivalent, who performs in vivo imaging and measurement  
48 procedures and in vitro nonimaging laboratory studies, prepares  
49 radiopharmaceuticals, and administers diagnostic/therapeutic doses  
50 of radiopharmaceuticals and administers other medications or  
51 procedures incidental for nuclear medicine exams to human beings  
52 while under the supervision of a licensed practitioner who is  
53 licensed to possess and use radioactive material. A certified  
54 nuclear medicine technologist also may perform diagnostic CT exams  
55 on hybrid equipment for diagnostic purposes, including the  
56 administration of parenteral and enteral contrast media and  
57 administration of other medications or procedures incidental to CT  
58 exams. Certified nuclear medicine technologists who perform CT  
59 scans must be certified in CT by the American Registry of  
60 Radiologic Technologists, the Nuclear Medicine Technology  
61 Certification Board, or other CT certifying body. A certified  
62 nuclear medicine technologist may do on-the-job training on hybrid  
63 equipment provided that the certified nuclear medicine  
64 technologist is supervised by a certified technologist and obtains  
65 a CT certification within six (6) months of that training.

66 (i) "Radiation therapist" means a person other than a  
67 licensed practitioner who has passed a national certification  
68 examination recognized by the department such as the American



69 Registry of Radiologic Technologists examination or its  
70 equivalent, who applies x-radiation and the ionizing radiation  
71 emitted from particle accelerators, cobalt sixty (60) units and  
72 sealed sources of radioactive material to human beings for  
73 therapeutic purposes while under the supervision of a licensed  
74 radiation oncologist or a board-certified radiologist who is  
75 licensed to possess and use radioactive material.

76 (j) "Limited x-ray machine operator" means a person  
77 other than a licensed practitioner or radiologic technologist who  
78 is issued a permit by the State Board of Medical Licensure to  
79 perform medical radiation technology limited to specific  
80 radiographic procedures on certain parts of the human anatomy,  
81 specifically the chest, abdomen and skeletal structures, and  
82 excluding fluoroscopic, both stationary and mobile (C-arm), and  
83 contrast studies, computed tomography, nuclear medicine, radiation  
84 therapy studies and mammography.

85 (k) "Council" means the Medical Radiation Advisory  
86 Council created under Section 41-58-3.

87 This section shall stand repealed on July 1, \* \* \* 2021.

88 **SECTION 2.** Section 41-58-3, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
89 amended as follows:

90 41-58-3. (1) The department shall have full authority to  
91 adopt such rules and regulations not inconsistent with the laws of  
92 this state as may be necessary to effectuate the provisions of



93 this chapter, and may amend or repeal the same as may be necessary  
94 for such purposes.

95 (2) There shall be established a Medical Radiation Advisory  
96 Council to be appointed as provided in this section. The council  
97 shall consist of nine (9) members as follows:

98 (a) One (1) radiologist who is an active practitioner  
99 and member of the Mississippi Radiological Society;

100 (b) One (1) licensed family physician;

101 (c) One (1) licensed practitioner;

102 (d) Two (2) registered radiologic technologists;

103 (e) One (1) nuclear medicine technologist;

104 (f) One (1) radiation therapist;

105 (g) One (1) radiation physicist;

106 (h) One (1) hospital administrator; and

107 (i) The State Health Officer, or his designee, who  
108 shall serve as ex officio chairman with no voting authority.

109 (3) The department shall, following the recommendations from  
110 the appropriate professional state societies and organizations,  
111 including the Mississippi Radiological Society, the Mississippi  
112 Society of Radiologic Technologists, and the Mississippi State  
113 Nuclear Medicine Society, and other nominations that may be  
114 received from whatever source, appoint the members of the council  
115 as soon as possible after the effective date of subsection (2) of  
116 this section and this subsection (3). Any person serving on the  
117 council who is a practitioner of a profession or occupation



118 required to be licensed, credentialed or certified in the state  
119 shall be a holder of an appropriate license, credential or  
120 certificate issued by the state. All members of the council shall  
121 be residents of the State of Mississippi. The council shall  
122 promulgate such rules and regulations by which it shall conduct  
123 its business. Members of the council shall receive no salary for  
124 services performed on the council but may be reimbursed for their  
125 reasonable and necessary actual expenses incurred in the  
126 performance of the same, from funds provided for such purpose.  
127 The council shall assist and advise the department in the  
128 development of regulations and standards to effectuate the  
129 provisions of this chapter.

130 (4) A radiologic technologist, nuclear medicine technologist  
131 or radiation therapist shall not apply ionizing or x-radiation or  
132 administer radiopharmaceuticals to a human being or otherwise  
133 engage in the practice of medical radiation technology unless the  
134 person possesses a valid registration issued by the department  
135 under the provisions of this chapter.

136 (5) The department may issue a temporary registration to  
137 practice a specialty of medical radiation technology to any  
138 applicant who has completed an approved program, who has complied  
139 with the provisions of this chapter, and is awaiting examination  
140 for that specialty. This registration shall convey the same  
141 rights as the registration for which the applicant is awaiting  
142 examination and shall be valid for one (1) six-month period.



143           (6) The department may charge a registration fee of not more  
144 than Fifty Dollars (\$50.00) biennially to each person to whom it  
145 issues a registration under the provisions of this chapter. Any  
146 increase in the fee charged by the department under this  
147 subsection shall be in accordance with the provisions of Section  
148 41-3-65.

149           (7) Registration with the department is not required for:

150                 (a) A student enrolled in and participating in an  
151 accredited course of study approved by the department for  
152 diagnostic radiologic technology, nuclear medicine technology or  
153 radiation therapy, who as a part of his clinical course of study  
154 applies ionizing radiation to a human being while under the  
155 supervision of a licensed practitioner, registered radiologic  
156 technologist, registered nuclear medicine technologist or  
157 registered radiation therapist;

158                 (b) Laboratory personnel who use radiopharmaceuticals  
159 for in vitro studies;

160                 (c) A dental hygienist or a dental assistant who is not  
161 a radiologic technologist, nuclear medicine technologist or  
162 radiation therapist, who possesses a radiology permit issued by  
163 the Board of Dental Examiners and applies ionizing radiation under  
164 the specific direction of a licensed dentist;

165                 (d) A chiropractic assistant who is not a radiologic  
166 technologist, nuclear medicine technologist or radiation  
167 therapist, who possesses a radiology permit issued by the Board of



168 Chiropractic Examiners and applies ionizing radiation under the  
169 specific direction of a licensed chiropractor;

170 (e) An individual who is permitted as a limited x-ray  
171 machine operator by the State Board of Medical Licensure and  
172 applies ionizing radiation in a physician's office, radiology  
173 clinic or a licensed hospital in Mississippi under the specific  
174 direction of a licensed practitioner; and

175 (f) A student enrolled in and participating in an  
176 accredited course of study for diagnostic radiologic technology,  
177 nuclear medicine technology or radiation therapy and is employed  
178 by a physician's office, radiology clinic or a licensed hospital  
179 in Mississippi and applies ionizing radiation under the specific  
180 direction of a licensed practitioner.

181 (8) Nothing in this chapter is intended to limit, preclude,  
182 or otherwise interfere with the practices of a licensed  
183 practitioner who is duly licensed or registered by the appropriate  
184 agency of the State of Mississippi, provided that the agency  
185 specifically recognizes that the procedures covered by this  
186 chapter are within the scope of practice of the licensee or  
187 registrant.

188 (9) (a) If any radiologic technologist, nuclear medicine  
189 technologist or radiation therapist violates any provision of this  
190 chapter or the regulations adopted by the department, the  
191 department shall suspend or revoke the registration and practice  
192 privileges of the person or issue other disciplinary actions in





193 accordance with statutory procedures and rules and regulations of  
194 the department.

195 (b) If any person violates any provision of this  
196 chapter, the department shall issue a written warning to the  
197 licensed practitioner or medical institution that employs the  
198 person; and if that person violates any provision of this chapter  
199 again within three (3) years after the first violation, the  
200 department may suspend or revoke the permit or registration for  
201 the x-radiation and ionizing equipment of the licensed  
202 practitioner or medical institution that employs the person, in  
203 accordance with statutory procedures and rules and regulations of  
204 the department regarding suspension and revocation of those  
205 permits or registrations.

206 (10) This section shall stand repealed on July 1, \* \* \*  
207 2021.

208 **SECTION 3.** Section 41-58-5, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
209 amended as follows:

210 41-58-5. (1) Each registered radiologic technologist,  
211 registered nuclear medicine technologist and registered radiation  
212 therapist shall submit evidence to the department of completing  
213 twenty-four (24) hours of continuing education in a two-year  
214 period as described in the rules and regulations of the  
215 department.

216 (2) Each limited x-ray machine operator who is first  
217 employed to apply ionizing radiation in the State of Mississippi



218 shall complete twelve (12) hours of education in radiologic  
219 technology, with six (6) of those hours specifically in radiation  
220 protection, not later than twelve (12) months after the date of  
221 his or her employment to apply ionizing radiation, and shall  
222 thereafter submit evidence to the State Board of Medical Licensure  
223 of completing twelve (12) hours of continuing education in a  
224 two-year period as described in the rules and regulations of the  
225 State Board of Medical Licensure. Six (6) of the continuing  
226 education hours must be in radiation protection.

227 (3) Each individual who is exempt from registration under  
228 paragraph (d) of Section 41-58-3(7) shall complete twelve (12)  
229 hours of continuing education in a two-year period as described in  
230 the rules and regulations of the department. Six (6) of the  
231 continuing education hours must be in radiation protection.

232 (4) Each individual who is exempt from registration under  
233 paragraph (d) of Section 41-58-3(7) and who is first employed to  
234 apply ionizing radiation in the State of Mississippi shall  
235 complete twelve (12) hours of education in radiologic technology,  
236 with six (6) of those hours specifically in radiation protection,  
237 not later than twelve (12) months after the date of his or her  
238 employment to apply ionizing radiation.

239 (5) The department shall approve training sessions that will  
240 provide the continuing education required under this section in  
241 each of the junior/community college districts in the state, with



242 at least one (1) training session being held during each quarter  
243 of the year.

244 (6) The Board of Chiropractic Examiners and the State Board  
245 of Medical Licensure may charge a fee of not more than Fifty  
246 Dollars (\$50.00) biennially to each individual whom the board  
247 certifies as having completed the continuing education  
248 requirements of this section.

249 (7) This section shall stand repealed on July 1, 2021.

250 **SECTION 4.** This act shall take effect and be in force from  
251 and after July 1, 2018.

