

By: Representative Roberson

To: Public Health and Human Services

HOUSE BILL NO. 259

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, * * * 2026.

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 ten (10) 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 April 13, 1996. Any person serving on
116 the council who is a practitioner of a profession or occupation
117 required to be licensed, credentialed or certified in the state



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

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

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



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

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

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

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

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

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



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

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

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

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

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



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

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

205 (10) This section shall stand repealed on July 1, * * *
206 2026.

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

209 41-58-5. (1) Each registered radiologic technologist,
210 registered nuclear medicine technologist and registered radiation
211 therapist shall submit evidence to the department of completing
212 twenty-four (24) hours of continuing education in a two-year
213 period as described in the rules and regulations of the
214 department.

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



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

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

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

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



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

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

248 (7) This section shall stand repealed on July 1, * * * 2026.

249 **SECTION 4.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
250 and after July 1, 2023.

