

1 H.473

2 An act relating to radiologist assistants

3 It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:

4 Sec. 1. 26 V.S.A. § 2851 is amended to read:

5 § 2851. DEFINITIONS

6 As used in this chapter:

7 \* \* \*

8 (8)(A) “Supervision” means the direction and review by a supervising  
9 radiologist, as determined to be appropriate by the Board, of the medical  
10 services provided by the radiologist assistant. At a minimum, supervision shall  
11 mean that a radiologist is readily available for consultation and intervention. A  
12 radiologist assistant may provide services under the direction and review of  
13 more than one supervising radiologist during the course of ~~his or her~~ the  
14 radiologist assistant’s employment, subject to the limitations on ~~his or her~~ the  
15 radiologist assistant’s scope of practice as set forth in this chapter and the  
16 protocol filed under subsection 2853(b) of this title.

17 (B) As used in subdivision (A) of this subdivision (8), “readily  
18 available” means that a radiologist is available in person or is available  
19 remotely by telephone or through a live, interactive audio and video  
20 connection.

1 Sec. 2. 26 V.S.A. § 2857 is amended to read:

2 § 2857. SUPERVISION AND SCOPE OF PRACTICE

3 (a)(1) The number of radiologist assistants permitted to practice under the  
4 direction and supervision of a radiologist shall be determined by the Board  
5 after review of the system of care delivery in which the supervising radiologist  
6 and radiologist assistants propose to practice. Scope of practice and levels of  
7 supervision shall be consistent with guidelines adopted by the American  
8 College of Radiology, the American Society of Radiologic Technologists, and  
9 the ARRT.

10 (2) The authority of a radiologist assistant to practice shall terminate  
11 immediately upon termination of the radiologist assistant's employment, and  
12 the primary supervising radiologist shall immediately notify the Board and the  
13 Commissioner of the Department of Health of the termination. The radiologist  
14 assistant's authority to practice shall not resume until ~~he or she~~ the radiologist  
15 assistant provides proof of other employment and a protocol as required under  
16 this chapter.

17 (3) If a supervising radiologist is not physically present at the location at  
18 which a radiologist assistant is practicing, the radiologist assistant shall provide  
19 services only when a physician licensed pursuant to chapter 23 or 33 of this  
20 title, who need not be a radiologist, is physically present at the location and

1 would be responsible for providing intervention or assistance in the event of a  
2 medical emergency.

3 (b)(1) Subject to the limitations set forth in subsection (a) of this section,  
4 the radiologist assistant's scope of practice shall be limited to that delegated to  
5 the radiologist assistant by the primary supervising radiologist and for which  
6 the radiologist assistant is qualified by education, training, and experience. At  
7 no time shall the practice of the radiologist assistant exceed the normal scope  
8 of the supervising radiologist's practice.

9 (2) A radiologist assistant ~~may~~ shall not interpret images, make  
10 diagnoses, or prescribe medications or therapies but may communicate with  
11 patients regarding the radiologist assistant's preliminary observations  
12 regarding the technical performance of a procedure or examination and  
13 regarding the findings from a radiologist's report. Preliminary observations  
14 shall not include any communication about the presence or absence of features  
15 or characteristics that would be considered in making a diagnosis.

16 Sec. 3. EFFECTIVE DATE

17 This act shall take effect on July 1, 2023.