

Urgent Message from TSRT

It is TIME!!!! Now and until the end of May we need your help if we are going to improve working conditions for radiographers in Texas. As we have said many times in the past we need the membership to respond on cue if we are to get our bill passed. This is one of those times. HB 3414 is in the Public Health Committee. It will die there unless we put pressure on this committee to hear the bill and take action. Their names and contact information are listed below. ANY concerned Texas citizen can contact them. Have your friends, co-workers, and family call, fax, or email (or all three). This is basically what to say:

“Dear Representative (Last name of representative)

As a concerned citizen of Texas I request that your committee hear HB 3414 and take action to get it to the House. This very important piece of legislation will help reduce healthcare costs in Texas and improve the quality of patient care by establishing proper oversight and regulation of the medical imaging profession. Please take action on this bill and move it out of committee. Your prompt attention to this matter is greatly appreciated.”

The members of the Public Health Committee are as follows (NOTE: Please read this entire message BEFORE contacting this committee):

Chair:

Rep. Dianne White Delisi <http://www.house.state.tx.us/members/dist55/delisi.htm> (go to this link to email directly) The Honorable Dianne White Delisi P.O. Box 2910
Austin, TX 78768
(512) 463-0630
(512) 463-0937 Fax

Vice Chair:

Rep. Jodie Laubenberg <http://www.house.state.tx.us/members/dist89/laubenberg.htm> (go to this link to email directly) The Honorable Jodie Laubenberg P.O. Box 2910
Austin, TX 78768
(512) 463-0186
(512) 463-5896 Fax

Budget & Oversight Chair:

Rep. Jim Jackson
<http://www.house.state.tx.us/members/dist115/jackson.htm> (go to this link to email directly) The Honorable Jim Jackson P.O. Box 2910
Austin, TX 78768
(512) 463-0468
(512) 463-1044 Fax

Members:

Rep. Ellen Cohen <http://www.house.state.tx.us/members/dist134/cohen.htm> (go to this link to email directly) The Honorable Ellen Cohen P.O. Box 2910
Austin, TX 78768
(512) 463-0389
(512) 463-1374 Fax

Rep. Garnet Coleman <http://www.house.state.tx.us/members/dist147/coleman.htm> (go to this link to email directly) The Honorable Garnet Coleman P.O. Box 2910
Austin, TX 78768
(512) 463-0524
(512) 463-1260 Fax

Rep. Veronica Gonzales <http://www.house.state.tx.us/members/dist41/gonzales.htm> (go to this link to email directly) The Honorable Veronica Gonzales P.O. Box 2910
Austin, TX 78768
(512) 463-0578
(512) 463-1482 Fax

Rep. Susan King <http://www.house.state.tx.us/members/dist71/king.htm> (go to this link to email directly) The Honorable Susan King P.O. Box 2910
Austin, TX 78768
(512) 463-0718
(512) 463-5896 Fax

Rep. Dora Olivo <http://www.house.state.tx.us/members/dist27/olivo.htm> (go to this link to email directly) The Honorable Dora Olivo P.O. Box 2910
Austin, TX 78768
(512) 463-0494
(512) 463-1403 Fax
(888) 777-0033 Toll-Free

Rep. Vicki Truitt <http://www.house.state.tx.us/members/dist98/truitt.htm> (go to this link to email directly) The Honorable Vicki Truitt P.O. Box 2910
Austin, TX 78768
(512) 463-0690
(512) 477-5770 Fax

Some background information before you contact these representatives:

- Representative Garnet Coleman is the one who is sponsoring our bill and helping us with our efforts. He is our friend and a member of the Public Health Committee. Don't send him the same message as the rest of the committee but do send him a message thanking him for his sponsorship and support of HB 3414 and tell him you will be there to support him in this effort.
- If you are unfamiliar with how a bill becomes law these days take a look at the following link <http://www.tlc.state.tx.us/gtli/legproc/process.html> Notice that the right hand column on this webpage is made up of active links that will walk you through the process. Please read this if you are unfamiliar so that you can speak accurately for our cause.
- Do you know what HB3414 will do? You can read the full document at the following link: <http://www.capitol.state.tx.us/BillLookup/Text.aspx?LegSess=80R&Bill=HB3414> The following is generally what it will do for us:
 - o It will establish a board made up of a majority of Radiologic Technologists who will then have the authority to oversee and enforce the law as it was originally intended.
 - o This board will be able to make decisions about who practices in Texas and what qualifications that person must meet.
 - o This board will be able to determine what curriculum is appropriate and the qualifications of those who will teach it.
 - o This board will put the best educated and capable individuals, Radiologic Technologists, in a position to oversee Radiologic Technology practice in Texas.

o This board will place the best qualified individuals, Radiologic Technologists, in a position to protect the public from unnecessary exposure to ionizing radiation and help reduce healthcare costs related to medical imaging.

If you have questions about this bill or what you should do please contact me.

If you will give TSRT and your profession your time and efforts when asked to do so over the next 8 weeks we will have a chance to do something extraordinary for ourselves, for Radiologic Technology, and for Texas. **DO YOUR PART FOR YOUR PROFESSION!**

Thank you,

Dr. James Johnston
TSRT Board Chairman