

North Carolina State Licensure Bill

The American Society of Echocardiography (ASE) has joined with other sonography organizations to oppose North Carolina's HB 753, *AN ACT Providing for the Regulation and Licensing of Persons Who Perform and Administer Medical Imaging and Radiation Therapy Procedures*. We believe that HB 753 cannot be fixed with a few simple amendments and should instead be defeated and "sent back to the drawing board."

Bill 753 compromises the quality and safety of sonography in North Carolina:

1. The introduced bill is poorly written, and the authors failed to consult the sonography and medical community. The proposed language may result in both the misinterpretation and improper implementation of the proposed law – adversely affecting sonographers, the medical community, and the patients we serve.
2. The proposed Medical Imaging and Radiation Therapy Board of Examiners **excludes** representation by many of the physicians who order and interpret medical imaging procedures including those in obstetrics/gynecology, cardiology, and vascular surgery.
3. The bill provides a "grandfathering" clause that permits individuals without adequate sonography education or experience to become licensed as a sonographer in North Carolina, without ever completing a sonography certification examination – creating two differing

A well crafted appropriate bill is needed, however Bill 753 is not that bill.

To review the text of the proposed bill, please visit: <http://tinyurl.com/NCHB753>