

# Advocacy Update

AUGUST 20, 2023



## ADVOCACY DAY AT THE STATEHOUSE

On Wednesday, May 10, 2023, several OSRT members met with several senator legislative aides. We introduced the OSRT organization, explained who radiologic technologists are, the rigorous education requirements, why imaging professionals should be categorized as essential healthcare workers, the very important role they play they play in a patient's diagnosis and treatment, and the commitment to delivering quality patient care to all individuals. During these meetings, an infographic was handed out, summarizing all these vital points. The legislative aides were interested in learning about the profession, taking copious notes, and asking pertinent questions. While no specific legislative issues were addressed, OSRT members in attendance relayed their passion for the profession and demonstrated that we are the experts in the field of medical imaging.



## Vision

To promote clinical excellence in radiologic technology

## Mission

We advocate for radiologic technologists by advancing professional practice to enhance patient care.

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# Your Certified and Licensed Radiologic Technologist

## EDUCATION

- Associate Degree or higher from a 2- or 4-year accredited program
- Approximately 1,000 clinical practicum hours
- Proven competency by successful completion of the American Registry of Radiologic Technologists' (ARRT) certification exam



## BY THE NUMBERS

- Over 13,500 certified and licensed radiologic technologists in Ohio



## SAFETY

- Educated in patient safety, radiobiology, and radiation protection, thereby reducing radiation exposure to the patient and others



## PATIENT CARE

- Provide patient education, quality medical images and therapy, and radiation protection
- Resulting in fast and accurate diagnosis and treatment, decreased healthcare costs, reduced patient anxiety, and higher patient satisfaction



## IMAGING CREDENTIALS

- Thirteen certification exams offered by the ARRT, including, but not limited to:
  - Radiography (R)
  - Computed Tomography (CT)
  - Magnetic Resonance (MR)
  - Mammography (M)
  - Nuclear Medicine (NM)
  - Radiation Therapy (T)



# Radiologic Technologist = Essential Healthcare Worker

## OSRT Members in attendance:

- Dr. Julie Gill
- Tiffany Roman
- Lucas Gross
- Alisha Guerrero
- Lauren Huffman
- Haley Griffin
- Kristin Seitz
- Allison Stokes

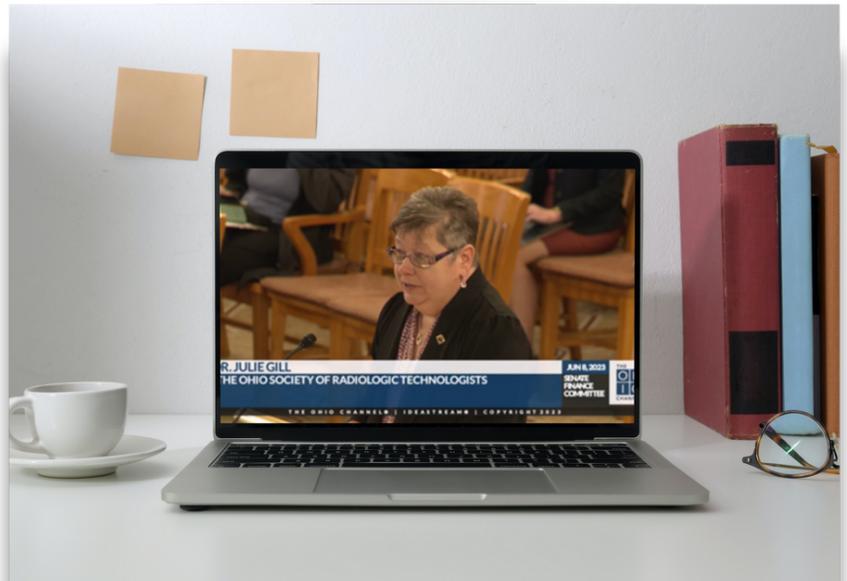


## HOUSE BILL 33

For several years, the OSRT and the Ohio Radiological Society (ORS), have been working together to combat the encroachment of other healthcare professionals and to uphold Ohio's strict radiologic technology licensure laws. In June, while the House and Senate were working on the State Budget that had to be signed by the governor, by July 1st, a proposed amendment was introduced into the bill. If passed inside the bill, the amendment would allow general x-ray machine operators (GXMOs) to perform radiologic procedures under general supervision rather than direct supervision as required by current law.

As soon as the amendment was proposed, the OSRT and ORS went straight to action to have the amendment removed from the budget bill before the governor signed it. The OSRT adamantly opposed the amendment and called on Senators. Dr. Julie Gill provided compelling testimony in front of the Senate Finance Committee. With the ASRT's resources, the OSRT activated a call to action, encouraging technologists to send letters opposing the amendment to their legislators. The efforts of the individuals and organizations were highly successful in removing the amendment from the Budget Bill, keeping direct supervision for the GXMO intact.

Click the laptop to  
watch Dr. Gill's  
testimony



Join us on Social Media to stay up to date!



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@The Ohio Society of Radiologic Technologists

# Meet Paul Kudlak: OSRT's Legislative Consultant

Many members might not be aware that the OSRT has a Legislative Consultant. Paul Kudlak is a vital part of the OSRT Advocacy team. His duties include monitoring for proposed and introduced legislation that may affect radiologic and imaging professions. The OSRT is very fortunate to have Paul in this role. He has been an asset to the organization, learning about and monitoring issues or regulatory changes that could harm the profession. He has helped us combat the encroachment of other healthcare professionals into our profession. Over the years, as a consultant for different



entities, he has built strong relationships with Ohio legislators, lobbyists, and other organizations, such as the Ohio Radiological Society (ORS) and the Ohio Department of Health (ODH). While Paul is not a Radiologic Technologist, over the years, since consulting for the OSRT, he has strived to learn about not only the imaging profession but the registered technologists performing these procedures and the patients we diagnose and treat each day. Paul effectively and efficiently communicates with the Advocacy Committee and OSRT board members, attending most OSRT board meetings and providing detailed reports of issues affecting our profession.

Without Paul's diligence on the part of the OSRT, we might not have been as successful at combatting encroachment, rebuilding our relationship with ORS, and passing the mammography tomosynthesis legislation. The OSRT is extremely lucky to have Paul as a watchdog for patients, medical imaging professionals, and the profession of radiologic and imaging sciences.

# OHIO DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH (ODH)- RADIATION GENERATING COMMITTEE (REC) AND RADIATION ADVISORY COUNCIL (RAC)

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These multi-constituent committees have representatives from radiation physicists, radiologic technologists, physicians, radiation therapists, etc., working with the X-ray Division of the ODH to help regulate licensure, radiation-generating equipment, and enforcement of safe practices of radioactive materials in Ohio.

The OSRT has members on both committees, providing input on safe radiation practices and licensure. OSRT Advocacy Committee members are notified and attend meetings at the Ohio Department of Health. Committee members in attendance report back to the OSRT board of directors, the advocacy committee, and our Legislative Consultant, Paul Kudlak. We discuss the information, and position statements or input is given when appropriate. If you want to be put on the list serve to be notified of these meetings, you can email [Bradiation@odh.ohio.gov](mailto:Bradiation@odh.ohio.gov).

## *What can I do?*

When you ask yourself, “Why should I join the OSRT? What’s in it for me??” Please remember the constant, behind-the-scenes activities that are done to ensure your position in the radiology community is secure and respected.

Isn’t this worth \$ 35.00 per year to you? The more members we have, the more impact we will have talking to our legislators. Don’t think your membership is irrelevant to these efforts - having a large population of members that supports the OSRT’s positions is critical. Help Us Help You! Please consider investing in your career by [joining the OSRT](#) or [renewing your membership](#).