



**SB 324 Proponent Testimony  
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Government Affairs Chair and Past President  
Ohio Association of Physician Assistants (OAPA)  
Senate Health Committee  
Chair Steve Huffman  
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Chair Huffman, Vice Chair Johnson, Ranking Member Liston, and members of the Senate Health Committee, on behalf of the Ohio Association of Physician Assistants (OAPA), representing 7,000 licensed PAs across the state and the students within Ohio's 17 PA programs, thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of Senate Bill 324.

OAPA supports Senate Bill 324 because it provides important statutory clarity regarding the role of licensed healthcare professionals, including Physician Assistants, in the use and supervision of ionizing radiation-generating equipment.

Physician Assistants are highly trained medical professionals licensed under Chapter 4730 of the Ohio Revised Code and educated in radiologic interpretation, diagnostic decision-making, and procedural medicine. PAs routinely order imaging, interpret results, and perform procedures that rely on radiologic guidance. Senate Bill 324 appropriately recognizes PAs as qualified medical practitioners by explicitly exempting licensed Physician Assistants from the requirement to obtain separate licensure as radiologic operators when practicing within their legal scope.

This distinction is both appropriate and necessary. PAs are not radiologic technicians; we are licensed medical providers responsible for evaluating patients, determining appropriate diagnostic testing, and performing medical procedures under physician collaboration. Requiring duplicative licensure for activities already covered by our medical training and statutory scope would impose unnecessary regulatory burdens without improving patient safety.

Additionally, Senate Bill 324 appropriately recognizes Physician Assistants as qualified practitioners who may provide direct supervision of general x-ray machine operators. This reflects the reality of modern medical practice, where PAs serve as frontline providers in hospitals, emergency departments, outpatient ambulatory clinics, and procedural settings across Ohio. By aligning statute with current clinical practice, SB 324 helps ensure clarity and consistency within the healthcare team.

Importantly, Senate Bill 324 maintains strong licensure and regulatory requirements for individuals whose primary professional role is operating radiologic equipment, while preserving the authority of licensed medical practitioners, including PAs, to use these tools as part of comprehensive patient care.

From a patient care perspective, this clarity supports timely diagnosis and treatment, particularly in rural and underserved areas where Physician Assistants often serve as the primary point of access to medical care. Ensuring that PAs can continue to practice efficiently within their training and legal scope helps reduce diagnostic delays, improve workflow efficiency, and enhance patient outcomes.

Senate Bill 324 reflects a thoughtful and balanced approach that maintains patient safety, respects professional training, and ensures Ohio's healthcare workforce can function effectively.

On behalf of the Ohio Association of Physician Assistants and the patients we serve, we respectfully urge the committee to support Senate Bill 324.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I would be happy to answer any questions.