



One way the Massachusetts Society of Radiologic Technologists celebrated National Radiologic Technology Week® was by visiting the Massachusetts State House to stand up and speak out for our profession and our patients. What better way to celebrate our profession?

Nov. 7 was the scheduled date for a legislative hearing on several bills related to scope of practice impacting medical imaging. Approximately 70 MSRT members and supporters donned our specially designed T-shirts and filled the legislative hearing room. A panel of MSRT board members presented written and oral testimony before the Joint Committee on Public Health. The board members conveyed a strong message to our legislators: Only educationally prepared and clinically competent, licensed radiologic technologists are qualified to perform medical imaging procedures, and only board certified physicians are qualified to interpret those procedures.

As participants walked through the state house and visited legislative offices to distribute written materials, we were noticed. Other state house visitors stopped to ask what group we represented and what legislation we were there to address. A unified message was conveyed that gave recognition to our profession, and our efforts had an impact.

However, our work is not done. Advocacy is a continual process and change is inevitable and necessary. We are faced with the need for updated regulations that reflect the technology we use and current practices in medical imaging and radiation therapy. Many states are challenged with issues related to encroachment of other health care providers on our scope of practice and the threat of deregulation. Be sure to monitor the [MSRT website](#) for important announcements on future advocacy efforts and watch for emails from the ASRT and the MSRT. Technologists and students must continue to contact their senators and representatives on a regular basis to educate them on the importance of these issues related to patient safety. With your help, we can present a united front to legislators across the country to oppose bills that could negatively impact our profession.



This post was written as part of the Leaders Connection Newsletter. For additional information about the Leaders Connection newsletter and to access past issues please visit www.asrt.org/leadersconnection.

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