



State Licensure Initiative Update

Presentation by Murray E. Bevan, Esq.
AAPM 51st Annual Meeting, July 2009

General Observations



- Legislators really don't know who a Medical Physicist is, what a Medical Physicist does
- Budget concerns are an obstacle, as are state budget deliberations
- Opposition coming from State Radiation Control Regulators, Health Physicists
- There is a compelling public health, safety and welfare argument for professional Board licensure of Medical Physicists
- Little opposition to licensure, but frequent indifference

Murray E. Bevan, Esq., July 2009

Pennsylvania



HB
1835

9 Co-Sponsors

All Key AAPM Provisions are in the Bill

Representative Harry Readshaw(D), Vice Chair of Professional Licensure Committee, is an excellent sponsor

Next Steps

- Sunrise Evaluation meeting August 6 with Director, Office of Legislative Affairs, Department of State
- Meeting with Democrat and Republican Executive Directors of House Professional Licensure Committee August 6
- Rep. Readshaw would like two public hearings in the late fall
 - ◆ Pittsburgh
 - ◆ Philadelphia/Harrisburg
- Vote on HR 1835 in the House Committee on Professional Licensure late fall, early January

Potential Concerns

- Need More Republican Support
- Opposition from Health Physicists
- Concerns from Bureau of Radiation Protection, Radiation Control Division in DEP

Murray E. Bevan, Esq., July 2009

Massachusetts



Current Status

- Rep. Jeffrey Sánchez (D), Chair of Joint Committee on Public Health, considering the Bill – Meeting first week in August
- Resolved where to locate Medical Physicist Board, DPH, Division of Health Professions Licensure
- Sánchez would obtain Late-Filer approval from Rule Committee Chair
- Need further discussion on:
 - ◆ Board financing through fees
 - ◆ Budget implications

Next Steps

- Conference call with Bob Walker, Radiation Control Program Director, and Robert Gallagher, Deputy Director
- August/September finalizing the Bill and secure introduction
- Expand discussions with other interest groups
- Meet with Senator Susan C. Fargo (D), Chair of Joint Committee on Public Health, to gain her support
- Joint Committee should consider the Bill in the late fall

Murray E. Bevan, Esq., July 2009

Michigan



5

Current Status

- Senator Thomas M. George (R), Chairman of Senate Health Policy Committee, is reviewing the Model Bill. Senator Patterson decided not to sponsor after several months of review.
- Budget deliberations in Michigan continue through September
- No opposition thus far to locate the Board in Department of Community Health, Bureau of Health Professions

Next Steps

- Conference call with Bruce Matkovich, Manager of Radiation Safety Section, Department of Community Health – second week in August
- Meetings with Senator George, possibly Senator Bill Hardiman (R), late August
- Review draft of new radiation therapy rules and Agreement State issues

Murray E. Bevan, Esq., July 2009

Ohio



6

Current Status

- Senator John Carey (R) potential sponsor, Chairman, Finance Committee
- Need to resolve location of the Professional Board
 - ◇ under the State Medical Board of Ohio, or
 - ◇ in Ohio Department of Health
- OLSA has issued a favorable analysis of the cost to establish the Medical Physicist Board

Next Steps

- Meeting with Senator Carey to resolve location of Board – late August
- Wider discussions with Profession Chairs and State Legislators

Murray E. Bevan, Esq., July 2009

Missouri



7

Current Status

- Review of Regulatory effort to establish new radiation control/radiological regulations does not address creation of a Professional Board
- Given small number of Medical Physicists, may need to create an Advisory Board in Board of Healing Arts under the Missouri Division of Professional Registration

Next Steps

- Early Fall meeting with Representative Jay Wasson (R), Chair, Special Standing Committee on Professional Registration & Licensing
- Further discussions with Missouri Radiation Control Program Department of Health regulator, John Langston, to "harmonize" his regulatory agenda with creation of a Professional Board
- Widen interest group discussions to include:
 - ◇ American Cancer Society
 - ◇ Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation

Murray E. Bevan, Esq., July 2009