

# HOUSE RESEARCH

## Bill Summary

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**Version:** As Introduced

**Authors:** Otremba and others

**Subject:** Operating X-ray Equipment

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### Overview

This bill modifies the current requirements for persons permitted to operate x-ray machines in this state.

#### Section

- 1 Examination for individual operating x-ray equipment.** Amends § 144.121, subd. 5. Requires any person, after January 1, 2008, that operates x-ray equipment to first pass a national examination. Provides that the commissioner of health establish criteria for approval of examinations based on national standards. States that an individual or organization proposing an exam be considered will pay for any costs incurred in determining whether the exam meets the commissioner's standards.
- 2 Limited x-ray machine operator examination.** Amends § 144.121 by adding subd. 5a. States an examination for limited x-ray machine operators must include the following at a minimum:
  - Radiation protection, equipment maintenance and operation, image production and evaluation, patient care and management
  - Anatomy of and positioning for at least one of the following regions of human anatomy: chest, extremities, skull and sinus, spine, or foot and ankle
- 3 Limited x-ray machine operator practice.** Amends § 144.121 by adding subd. 5b. Allows limited x-ray operators to practice medical radiography on only the regions of the body for which they passed an examination and only using "routine radiographic procedures."

**Section**

Prohibits limited x-ray operators from using computed tomography (CT), contrast media, and fluoroscopic or mammographic equipment.

**4 Exemptions.** Amends § 144.121 by adding subd. 5c. Exempts x-ray operators who met regulations prior to January 1, 2008, and those with certain state licensures.

**5 Procedures.** Amends § 144.121 by adding subd. 5d. Directs the commissioner of health to promulgate rules regarding examinations.

**6 Variance of scope of practice.** Amends § 144.121 by adding subd. 5e. Permits the commissioner to grant a variance of the scope of practice for x-ray operators when the scope would impose an extreme hardship. States the requirements for a request for variance, and the requirements for the commissioner to grant or deny a variance request.

**7 Effective Date.** Provides January 1, 2008, as the effective date for this bill.