

Subject X-rays and sources of ionizing radiation

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Overview

The Health Department regulates sources of ionizing radiation and establishes qualifications for persons who may operate this equipment. This bill modifies a section governing registration of x-ray equipment and other sources of ionizing radiation, and specifies qualifications and practice for specific occupations that operate sources of ionizing radiation.

Summary

Section	Description
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| 1 | Registration; fees.
Amends § 144.121, subd. 1. Changes a term used in a subdivision requiring payment of fees for x-ray equipment and sources of ionizing radiation. |
| 2 | Fees for ionizing radiation-producing equipment.
Amends § 144.121, subd. 1a. Clarifies that a facility with other sources of ionizing radiation must pay an initial or annual renewal registration fee, and specifies that the fee amount added to a facility's base fee is a fee for each x-ray tube. Makes other technical changes. |
| 3 | Handheld dental x-ray equipment.
Adds subd. 1d to § 144.121. Requires a facility that uses handheld dental x-ray equipment to comply with section 144.121. |
| 4 | Inspections.
Amends § 144.121, subd. 2. Makes clarifying changes to a subdivision requiring the commissioner of health to perform radiation safety inspections. |
| 5 | Examination for individual operating x-ray systems.
Amends § 144.121, subd. 5. Changes a term used (x-ray systems instead of x-ray equipment). Strikes a direction to the commissioner to establish criteria for |

Section	Description
	<p>examination approval, and in a new paragraph (b) lists qualifications for individuals to operate x-ray systems.</p> <p>A new paragraph (c) exempts individuals in a training or education program for most of the occupations listed in paragraph (b) from the examination requirement, for the scope and duration of the training or education program.</p> <p>Paragraph (d) specifies what the Minnesota examination for limited scope x-ray operators must include.</p> <p>A new paragraph (e) specifies what the examination for bone densitometry equipment operators must include.</p> <p>Paragraph (f) specifies that bone densitometry equipment operators are required to apply to take the exam and pay a \$25 processing fee.</p>
6	<p>Limited scope x-ray and bone densitometry equipment operator practice. Amends § 144.121, subd. 5a. Clarifies the scope of practice for a limited scope x-ray operator and bone densitometry operator, provided the operator has passed the required exam.</p>
7	<p>Cardiovascular technologist practice. Adds subd. 5c to § 144.121. Specifies qualifications of a cardiovascular technologist in order to assist with the operation of fluoroscopy equipment. Exempts a cardiovascular technologist participating in a training or education program from the examination requirements for the scope and duration of the training or education program.</p>
8	<p>Nuclear medicine technologist practice. Adds subd. 5d to § 144.121. Specifies qualifications of a nuclear medicine technologist to operate a fusion imaging device, dual imaging device, or stand-alone computed tomography x-ray system. Exempts a nuclear medicine technologist who meets certain requirements and who is participating in a training or education program from the examination requirement for the scope and duration of the training or education program.</p>
9	<p>Radiation therapy technologist practice. Adds subd. 5e to § 144.121. Specifies qualifications for a radiation therapy technologist to operate radiation therapy accelerator and simulator x-ray systems and stand-alone computed tomography x-ray systems. Exempts a technologist who meets certain requirements and who is participating in a training or education</p>

Section	Description
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	program from the examination requirement for the scope and duration of the training or education program.
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10	Repealer.
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	Repeals section 144.121, subd. 3 (exempting veterinarians from a requirement to conduct densitometry and sensitometry tests as part of ionizing radiation quality assurance) and subd. 5b (requiring the commissioner to grant a variance to a facility for the scope of practice of an x-ray operator if health care delivery would be compromised if a variance was not granted).
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