

Plan now for annual conference April 21-24

Remember . . . the 1999 MSRT Annual Conference is set for April 21-24 in Springfield, MO.

All credits for educational courses will be Cat. A and one credit will be available for each hour of lecture.

If you have suggestions or questions, contact 1999 Program Chair David Frazier, (417) 269-8987 (w), or conference coordinator Norman Hente at (314) 362-2990.

■ If your name or address has changed, please notify us immediately so you will continue to receive your MSRT info!
Membership Director
P.O. Box 881
Columbia, MO 65205-0881

A state of emergency exists in the state of Missouri:

The unknowing public is being needlessly subjected to unqualified persons performing their radiologic exams EVERY DAY! Not only are they being over exposed to radiation—they are receiving improper and sometimes delayed diagnosis for their conditions. This delay or misdiagnosis can cause an increase in treatment and recovery time and sometimes even death!

The Board of Directors of the Missouri Society of Radiologic Technologists has the following goals to achieve passage of legislation for the certification of all persons using ionizing radiation on human beings:

1. Educate the technologists of our state on the importance of State Certification as it pertains to their role in the future of health care.
2. Educate the general public on the importance of only "qualified" individuals performing radiologic procedures.
3. Work closely with the Missouri Hospital Association, the State Legislature and any other organization that may be involved in getting the legislation passed.
4. Set up a phone network of technologists throughout the state. Use this network to "get the word out" quickly concerning all stages of the legislative process. With our new TOLL FREE number, 877-353-3599, more technologists can be informed of the latest developments and information can be shared more easily.
5. Urge all technologists and their "friends and family" to write to both their Senators and Representatives to urge their support of the proposed legislation.

6. Organize a "Lobby Day" for technologists to go to the Capital in Jefferson City and talk to their legislators about the proposed legislation.

To be part of the phone tree please leave your name and phone number on the Toll Free Hotline (877-353-5399) or contact either of the Legislative Activities Committee co-chairmen:

Donita Shipman, RT(R)(M)(QM)

660-343-5376 (home)

660-827-9530 (work)

highlife@iland.net

or

Ed Passman, BS, RT(R)

816-373-3690 (home)

816-943-2595 (work)

passman@kctera.net

Summary of the proposed legislation:

"This bill creates within the Division of Professional Registration the board of Ionizing Radiation Technology. The bill contains provisions pertaining to the make-up of the board, compensation of members, nomination and appointment procedures, terms of members, and meetings of the board. The board is required to establish standards for licensure, promulgate rules for the operation of the board, establish accreditation of schools and courses for radiation technology, and establish the appropriate continuing education for license renewal.

"The Division of Professional Registration is responsible for staffing of the board, giving board certified examinations, issuing certificates, establishing and collecting reasonable fees, notify-

(Continued on back)

Sample letter to senators and representatives

Dear Senator/Representative _____,

I am writing to ask that you support Senate Bill 103/House Bill 197. This legislation addresses the certification of persons administering ionizing radiation to humans. I feel this legislation is very important to the future of health care and will serve as protection for the patient/consumer in three important ways:

1. First, and foremost, it will reduce the amount of over-exposure which can cause cancer, life shortening, and mutations of future generations.

2. Second, it will help ensure that all patients receive the most accurate image to help in diagnosing their health care concerns. An accurate diagnosis is very dependent

upon the quality of the exam that the patient receives. A physician can only make an accurate diagnosis when the information he receives is both accurate and complete. Misdiagnosis can lead to unnecessary repeated exams, additional radiation exposure, undue suffering or even death.

3. Third, this legislation can help cut health care costs. By diagnosing disease in a timely and accurate manner, treatments can be timely and more effective. Failure to diagnose disease in its earliest stage can only lead to more expensive treatment courses at a later date. Delayed or misdiagnosis also contributes to lawsuits for negligence.

There is an EMERGENCY in the State of Missouri!! The unknowing public is being needlessly subjected to unqualified per-

sons performing their radiologic exams every day!

I ask that you, as a representative of the public's best interest, support Senate Bill 103/House Bill 197. For the health and safety of the citizens of Missouri—our patients and loved ones—I ask for passage of Senate Bill 103/House Bill 197. Thank you.

Respectfully,

Jane Doe
1234 Any Street
Downtown, MO 11111

NOTE: Addresses for your representatives can be found in your local phone book or on the Internet. Or, you can write to:

Missouri Senatorial Districts



MAILING ADDRESSES

State Senators

The Honorable _____
Senate Post Office
State Capitol Building
Jefferson City, MO 65101

State Representatives

The Honorable _____
House Post Office
State Capitol Building
Jefferson City, MO 65101

Governor Mel Carnahan

Office of the Governor
State Capitol Building
Jefferson City, MO 65101

Director of the Department of Health

Maureen Dempsey
Office of the Director
MO Dept. of Health
P.O. Box 570
Jefferson City, MO 65101

YES!



MSRT announces new 'Membership Incentive Program'

The Missouri Society of Radiologic Technologists Board of Directors
is pleased to announce a
"MEMBERSHIP INCENTIVE PROGRAM."

This program will be in place from Feb 1 through May 1.
The rules of the program are as follows:

1. All members who recruit 5 new Active members of the Missouri Society of Radiologic Technologists will receive a full year's membership **FREE!**
2. Recruited members must be "new" members—those members who are simply renewing their membership will not be considered "new." A "new" member must be an Active member who has not been a paid member since 1997.
3. To qualify as having recruited a "new" member, the recruiter must write his/her name on the bottom of the application form. This name will be the mechanism through which the treasurer will document the member who recruits the "new" member.
4. All members who are awarded a free year's membership will be recognized at the Annual Conference at the Friday night banquet.



Winners will also be notified by mail by the Board of Directors.

You'll find a membership application form
on the back of this insert sheet.
Don't delay . . . win that free membership **TODAY!!!**





THE MISSOURI SOCIETY OF RADIOLOGIC TECHNOLOGISTS

Application for Membership

July 1, 1998 - June 30, 1999

Please complete ALL sections and return to MSRT with payment today!

New Applicant Renewal (Other name membership under) _____

First Name: _____ M.I. _____ Last Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City / State / Zip: _____

Home Phone: (____) _____ Work Phone: (____) _____

Present Employer: _____

Business Address: _____

Certified in:

- Radiography
- Nuclear Medicine
- Radiation Therapy
- Sonography
- Cardiovascular-
Interventional
- Mammography
- MRI
- CT
- Quality Management

Position Title:

- Staff Technologist
- Special Procedures
- Supervisor
- Director/Education
- Instructor
- Administrator
- Chief Administrator
- Assistant Chief Administrator
- CT Technologist
- MRI Technologist
- Mammographer
- Not Employed
- Other _____

Education Level:

- Certificate
- Associate
- Baccalaureate
Major _____
- Masters
Major _____
- Doctorate
Major _____

Check All That Apply:

- ASRT Member
- MSRT Member
- District Member

Work in:

- Hospital
- Clinic
- Office
- School
- Commercial
- Other

MSRT District: Please circle all that apply

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8

ACTIVE MEMBER: Radiologic Technologist registered by and in good standing with a nationally recognized certifying body. **\$35** _____

SUPPORTING MEMBER: Those persons interested in Radiologic Technology but not having qualifications for other categories. **\$35** _____

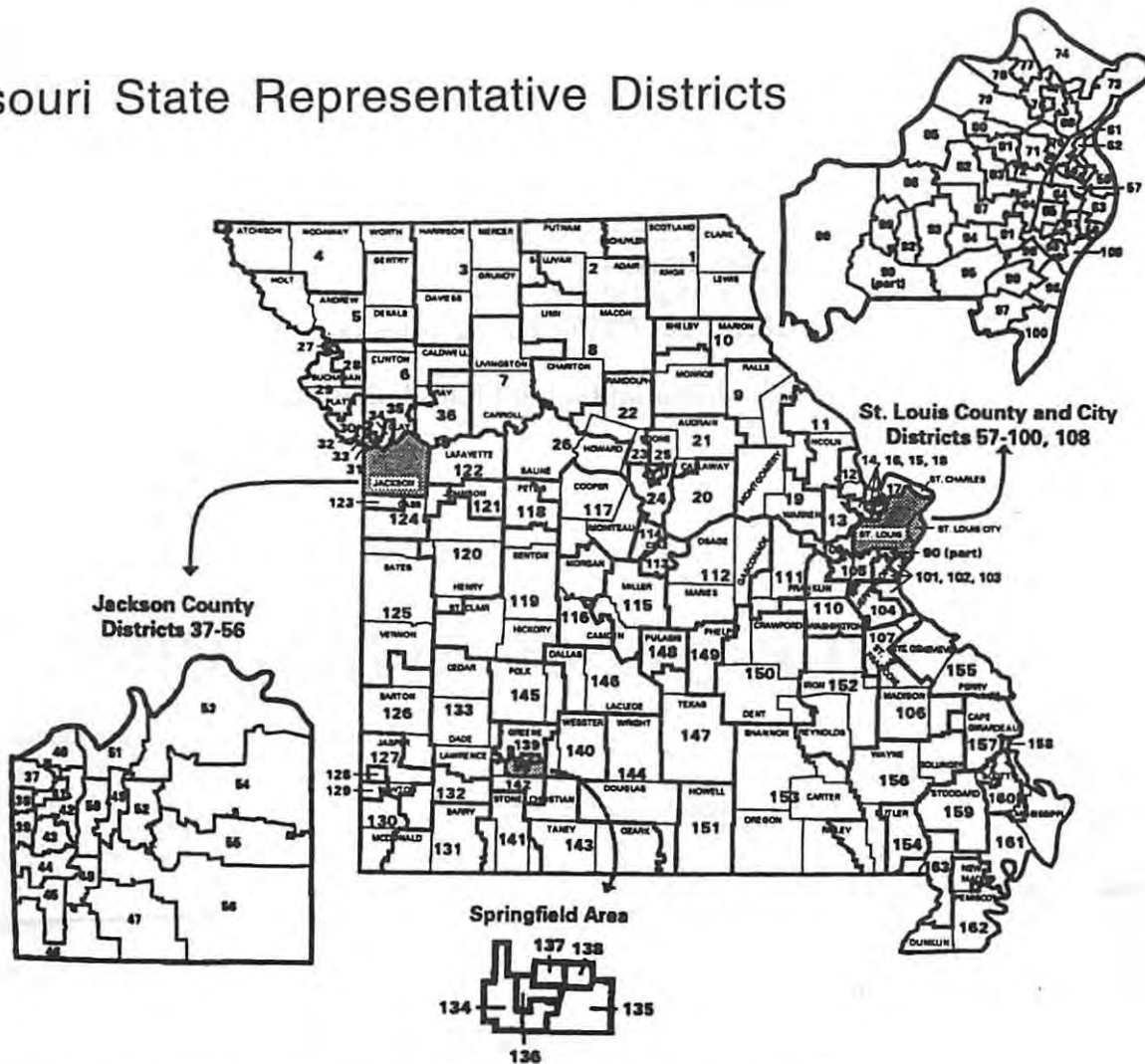
STUDENT MEMBER: Students enrolled in a training program recognized by ARRT and or of 24-month duration. This is a 2-year membership, due on or before Sept. 1. **\$20** _____

Name of School: _____ Graduation Date: _____

Make your check payable to: MSRT

Submit to: Barb Hente • MSRT Treasurer • 3708 Joyce • Granite City, IL 62040

Missouri State Representative Districts



TECHNOLOGISTS: Urge Department of Health to release M.O.R.S.E.L.S. study immediately!

The Department of Health has been conducting a study over the last 24 months called M.O.R.S.E.L.S. This stands for MO Radiation Statistical Evaluation Longitudinal Study and it gathered data on the quality of radiologic exams done across the state of Missouri.

The preliminary data showed that for radiologic exams performed in clinics, physician, chiropractic and podiatrist offices the failure rate was more than 4 times that of exams performed in a hospital setting. It also showed that exams that were performed by non radiologic educated persons had a failure rate of 5 to 6 times more than that of exams performed by registered radiologic technologists.

This preliminary data proves what we all know—exams performed by unqualified persons are a danger to our patients. This study is being "held up in internal review" in the Department of Health at this time. I would like to encourage every technologist in the state to write to the Director of the Department of Health and to the Governor to urge them to release the M.O.R.S.E.L.S. study immediately. The addresses for these officials are included on page 2 in this newsletter, or they can be reached on the Internet at state.mo.us.

THANK YOU !!!

Your help and support for the Missouri Society of Radiologic Technologists legislative issues are badly needed . . . and greatly appreciated!

Let your voice be heard, and make your VOTE count in the legislative process. Contact your senator and representative TODAY!

Barbara Hente
Life Member
3708 JOYCE ST
GRANITE CITY IL 62040-4236



State of emergency in Missouri . . .

(Continued from page 1)

ing licensees of renewal dates, refusal and revocation of certificates, and the filing of complaints.

"The bill creates within the State Treasury the Board of Ionizing Radiation Technology Fund. All fees collected by the board will be placed in the fund, subject to appropriation. All expenses of the board and its employees will be paid from the fund."

The legislation has been proposed in the Senate by Rosann Bentley, Springfield, and is known as Senate Bill 103 (SB103). The legislation has also been proposed in the House of Representatives by Joan Barry and Kathryn Hollingsworth, St. Louis, and is known as House Bill 197 (HB197). Copies of these bills can be obtained from your local Representative or Senator or on the World Wide Web at www.state.mo.us.

As of press time, SB103 has been assigned to the Financial and Government Organization Committee. The Honorable William "Lacy" Clay, 4th Senate District, is chairman and Joe Maxwell, 18th Senate District, is vice chairman.

Other members of the committee are:

Jerry Howard, District 25
Ken Jacob, District 19
Jim Mathewson, District 21
Rosann Bentley, District 30
Sam Graves, District 12
Peter Kinder, District 27
Anita Yeckel, District 1

As of press time, HB197 has been assigned to the Professional Registration and Licensing Committee. The Honorable Joseph Treadway is chairman and The Honorable Patrick O'Connor is vice chairman.

Other committee members are:

Joan Barry
Rich Chrismer
Jonathan Dolan
Catherine Enz
James Michael Foley
Roy Holan
Don Koller
Jerry McBride
Charles Nordwald
David Reynolds
David Schwab

Please make a special note to write to the members of these committees and urge them to vote this legislation "out of com-

mittee" and to the entire Senate or House of Representatives.

When you are writing or calling your Representative or Senator please be sure and name the bill you want them to support. A personal letter receives the best response. Here are some facts you may include:

FACT: Over 90% of all radiation the general public receives is from medical x-ray examinations. Less than 10% of all radiation received is from nuclear power plants, nuclear fallout or research accidents.

FACT: There is currently no law in Missouri that protects the consumer-patient from unqualified operators of x-ray machines, except in the area of mammography.

FACT: It is estimated that 40% of the people administering ionizing radiation have NOT received any formal education in Radiologic Technology—this includes physicians, nurses, lab techs . . .

FACT: Misdiagnosis is a major concern related to unqualified persons performing radiologic exams. Films that are of low quality due to incorrect exposure or poor positioning result in anatomy or disease processes not being imaged. A physician can only make a proper diagnosis with a quality film!
