



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

2 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0002
(207) 287-1440
TTY: (207) 287-4469

Nathan J. Wadsworth

29 Rock Crop Way
Hiram, ME 04041

Phone: (207) 838-7451

Nathan.Wadsworth@legislature.maine.gov

Testimony of Rep. Nathan Wadsworth introducing
LD 649, "An Act to Certify Chiropractic Assistants Who Perform X-rays as Radiologic Technologists "
*Before the Joint Standing Committee on Health Coverage, Insurance,
and Financial Services*

March 13, 2025

Senator Bailey, Representative Mathieson and Distinguished Members of the Joint Standing Committee on Health Coverage, Insurance, and Financial Services;

My name is Representative Nathan Wadsworth and I represent House District 82, which includes the towns of Brownfield, Fryeburg, Lovell, Hiram, and Porter. I am here today to introduce **LD 649, "An Act to Certify Chiropractic Assistants Who Perform X-rays as Radiologic Technologists"**. This legislation is a critical step toward improving patient access to timely imaging services while maintaining high standards of care.

Under current regulations, patients in need of diagnostic X-rays often face unnecessary delays, particularly those who must visit hospitals or imaging centers. These facilities are frequently overburdened, leading to long wait times that can delay treatment and prolong patient discomfort. By certifying chiropractic assistants to perform X-rays as radiologic technologists, this bill offers a practical solution—allowing patients to receive necessary imaging services directly in chiropractic offices without long hospital wait times. This legislation establishes rigorous certification requirements to ensure safety and competency. Chiropractic assistants seeking certification must:

- Hold a valid license under section 556.
- Complete a board-approved course with at least 50 hours of instruction, covering critical areas such as radiographic equipment, exposure principles, radiation protection, anatomy, and positioning.
- Pass a proficiency examination in radiologic technology.
- Pay a certification fee not exceeding \$100, ensuring affordability for practitioners.

By meeting these standards, chiropractic assistants will be well-equipped to produce high-quality diagnostic images while ensuring patient safety. Additionally, the bill mandates continuing education for certificate renewal, keeping practitioners updated on best practices.

Allowing trained chiropractic assistants to perform X-rays will significantly improve efficiency in healthcare delivery. Instead of waiting hours or even days for hospital imaging, patients can access necessary X-rays in a familiar, convenient setting—reducing overall system strain and expediting care. Furthermore, requiring visible display of certification in chiropractic offices ensures transparency and patient confidence.

I urge the Committee to support this legislation, which will expand patient access, alleviate hospital burdens, and maintain high radiologic safety standards.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Nathan J. Wadsworth
State Representative



To: Maine Legislature Committee on Health Coverage, Insurance and Financial Services

Date: March 11, 2025

Re: LD 649 An Act To Certify Chiropractic Assistants Who perform X-Rays as Radiologic Technicians, Sponsored by Representative Wadsworth

Senator Bailey, Representative Mathieson and distinguished members of the Committee on Health Coverage, Insurance and Financial Services. My name is Robert Reed, I am the Executive Director of the Maine Chiropractic Association (MCA) testifying on behalf of my employer. The MCA represents over two hundred Chiropractic Doctors, their staff and most importantly, the patients they serve. We present today offering our support for this bill.

LD 649 will allow a Certified Chiropractic Assistant to hold an additional certification allowing that individual to produce x-rays in a Chiropractic office. Our leadership has reviewed the training requirements presented in the bill and have great respect for the American Chiropractic Registry of Radiologic Technologists (ACRRT), which is a subchapter of the American Board of Chiropractic Radiology. The MCA believes their training program provides acceptable training for the limited number of x-ray services performed in a Chiropractic setting and is already established and allowed in several other states.

In addition, because the added certification requires they be a Certified Chiropractic Assistant with requirements previously approved by the Legislature and administered by the Maine Chiropractic Board of Licensing, these individuals will already possess 36 hours of training including anatomy, physiology, and chiropractic methodologies. That primary certification allows Chiropractic staff to provide or assist with services that are then reimbursed by insurance carriers.

This model provides the training we believe is necessary by utilizing a nationally recognized board program and has verifiable testing of skills and as such we ask for your consideration in approving this bill.

We thank the Committee for its time and energy and stand ready to provide answers to any questions you may have of the Association.