



For Immediate Release

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***ENZI ANNOUNCES PASSAGE OF RADIOLOGY CARE BILL TO  
IMPROVE MEDICAL CARE, REDUCE COSTS***

**Washington, D.C.** - U.S. Senator Mike Enzi (R-WY), Chairman of the Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Committee (HELP Committee), today said the Committee unanimously approved the “Consumer Assurance of Radiologic Excellence Act” (RadCARE Bill), a bill that will improve patient safety and health care quality by advancing uniform standards for medical imaging certification.

“For millions of Americans each year, the road to diagnosis, treatment, and healing begins in the radiology department,” Enzi said. “The RadCARE bill will require national education standards for the professionals that perform medical imaging and radiation therapy to ensure that they are properly trained. This bill is vital to improving patient safety and health care quality.”

Each year, between 4 percent and 7 percent of medical imaging examinations have to be repeated due to improper positioning or technique. This not only puts patient safety at risk due to the threat of overexposure to radiation during a radiologic test, but it also costs Americans and the federal government a staggering amount in unnecessary health care bills. **If the provisions of the RadCARE bill, S. 2322, could reduce the number of repeat examinations nationally by just 1 percent, Medicare would save an estimated \$92 million a year.**

“Passing this bill will not only improve health care quality and save lives, it will also reduce costs and make radiologic care more affordable and accessible for patients in need,” Enzi said.

Medical imaging is an invaluable tool in the diagnosis, treatment, and management of disease, but most radiologic procedures also carry a potential health risk. S. 2322 would reduce that risk and improve the safety of medical imaging by ensuring that the procedures are carried out by well-trained, qualified professionals, and by requiring that the Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS):

- Consult with recognized experts to establish standards to ensure the safety and accuracy of medical imaging studies and radiation therapy treatments;
- Require licensure for providers of technical services by each state;
- Provide flexible means of meeting those requirements, including by examination, certification, experience, completion of course work, or other means as determined by the Secretary; and,
- Certify qualified entities as approved bodies for accreditation.

“By establishing national education and credentialing standards, the RadCARE Bill will ensure that quality information is presented for diagnosis and that radiation treatments are delivered accurately and safely,” Enzi said. “It will reduce the chance of misdiagnosis, additional testing, and needless patient anxiety.”

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