



**Society of Diagnostic Medical Sonography**

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March 31, 2006

The Honorable Ted W. Lieu  
California Assemblyman 53<sup>rd</sup> Assembly District  
P.O. Box 942849  
Sacramento, California 94249-0053

Dear Assemblyman Lieu,

We are a non-profit, professional association representing Diagnostic Medical Sonographers with a national membership in excess of 18,000 and 1,672 members in California. We are submitting this letter for your consideration in reference to California AB 2360. We understand that the intention of AB 2360 is to prevent untrained operators from obtaining ultrasound equipment and using it for non-medical purposes. We laud you for this effort, and certainly support the intent of the bill. However, the current language of this bill, if passed as written, would prevent appropriately educated and certified sonographers, as well as sonography educators and faculty, from purchasing ultrasound equipment for use in medical and/or educational settings. Currently, sonographers and sonographer educators are able to make such purchases of ultrasound equipment in California and other states.

In keeping with the intent of the bill, yet to make the appropriate accommodation for practicing medical sonographers and sonographer educators we would offer the suggested modifications to the bill:

AB 2360 as currently written - *This bill would prohibit a manufacturer or other person in California from selling, leasing, or otherwise distributing in this state an ultrasound diagnostic imaging machine to any person other than a licensed physician or surgeon, or a licensed facility.*

AB 2360 proposed modifications - *This bill would prohibit a manufacturer or other person in California from selling, leasing, or otherwise distributing in this state an ultrasound diagnostic imaging machine to any person other the following:*

1. *A licensed physician or surgeon,*
2. *A licensed medical professional such as a dentist or veterinarian,*
3. *An individual or company who provides diagnostic ultrasound services to licensed physicians or licensed medical facilities and, during the provision of such services, is under their general supervision,*
4. *A licensed medical facility, as defined, or*
5. *A university, college, or institute that provides specific education in the field of diagnostic medical sonography, echocardiography, or vascular ultrasound.*

We believe that these proposed changes maintain the intent and integrity of the bill yet provide the flexibility to allow current medical purchasers of ultrasound equipment the ability to continue their practices. We look forward to the opportunity to dialogue with you on this issue. Should you be interested in obtaining additional information related to this issue please do not hesitate to call on us.

Sincerely,

Jean Lea Spitz, MPH, RDMS, FSDMS  
President,  
SDMS

Terrence Tye, RDMS, RDCS  
Chair,  
SDMS Government Relations Committee