
Letter from the Editor

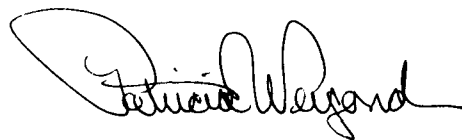
Reporting on Government Affairs

As a reflection of state and federal legislative impact on the practice of nuclear medicine technology, the *JNMT* has increased its coverage of this aspect of our profession. In past issues, we have published Technologist Section testimony to the U.S. Senate, a task analysis of nuclear medicine technology, and a position description delineating various levels of responsibility. Publication of these last two documents has in particular helped to define our profession clearly in the minds of legislators. Articles have been published regarding legislative activities at the state level, as well.

In this and future issues, we will continue to publicize relevant government activities. The National Council, the Executive Committee, and the Publications Committee agree that it is important for the general membership to be aware of action and proposed action in this arena, as well as the Section's responses to these actions.

Searching the *Federal Register* daily for pertinent items, collecting background data, formulating an appropriate response, and presenting it effectively are tasks that require time, coordination, and money. Your membership dues in part support this important activity; this is a very prudent investment because you are protecting the future of your livelihood.

Read the reports and articles we publish concerning government affairs. Be aware of the external forces that impact upon nuclear medicine technology (see George Alexander's commentary article in this issue). Absorb the information from President Cianci and the Government Relations Committee. Do not be in the dark about political activities concerning this most regulated medical specialty. In fact, consider becoming actively involved in this aspect at the national or chapter level.



PATRICIA WEIGAND