

**From:** [Sunset Advisory Commission](#)  
**To:** [Dawn Roberson](#)  
**Subject:** FW: RDA LICENSURE - DO NOT STOP IT!!  
**Date:** Friday, April 22, 2016 4:22:59 PM

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**From:** Jacqueline Jackson [mailto:jrafanan@chcp.edu]  
**Sent:** Friday, April 22, 2016 4:22 PM  
**To:** Anne R. Allensworth  
**Cc:** Sunset Advisory Commission  
**Subject:** RDA LICENSURE - DO NOT STOP IT!!

Dear Ms. Allensworth,

I am writing in response to the Texas Sunset Commission's report on the Licensure of RDA's with the Texas State Board of Dental Examiners (TSBDE).

I have been an RDA for several years and I am also an instructor at The College of Health Care Professions and certified in Nitrous Oxide Monitoring.

I am not in favor of abolishing Registration or Certifications for Dental Assistants.

I decided to become an instructor because I saw the need and importance of dental assistants being properly trained in and ethics and law, radiology and infection control. These are some of the required courses that the students at my school take as part of the dental assisting curriculum. Being an instructor helps me to ensure that the students are adequately trained and tested on those particular subjects and much more. There are some tasks that dentists delegate to assistants and I could not image an assistant overseeing a task in which they haven't been properly certified to perform. Having an RDA means that they have completed all the necessary training and therefore deemed legally competent to perform dental tasks.

You mentioned that gaps in regulatory requirements undermine the very promise of public safety that the regulations were supposed to provide. Solution, make sure there are no gaps. Close the gaps. The regulatory program wastes licensing and legal resources and diverts board and staff focus from higher-risk agency responsibilities. Higher more resources and take out some of the steps that it takes to issue the license. Anytime that you have someone dealing with the health of the public, especially in patient care it is a risk and can potentially become a high risk if something goes wrong. This is what you will stand to create if you decide to abolish the registration of dental assistants. RDA licensing ensures that the assistant has been trained and tested on the knowledge of their training.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jacqueline Jackson

*Jacqueline Jackson* DA PROGRAM DIRECTOR  
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