

From: [Sunset Advisory Commission](#)
To: [Janet Wood](#)
Subject: FW: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Public/After Publication)
Date: Wednesday, April 25, 2018 1:43:35 PM

-----Original Message-----

From: sundrupal@capitol.local [<mailto:sundrupal@capitol.local>]
Sent: Wednesday, April 25, 2018 11:12 AM
To: Sunset Advisory Commission
Subject: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Public/After Publication)

Agency: TEXAS MEDICAL BOARD

First Name: Kathryn

Last Name: Whitfield

Title: Associate Professor

Organization you are affiliated with: TSRT

Email:

City: Magnolia

State: Texas

Your Comments About the Staff Report, Including Recommendations Supported or Opposed:

I SUPPORT the TMB Staff recommendation, found on Page 5, to create a medical radiologic technology Radiologist Assistant (RA) certificate. Which will establish in statute an advanced-level medical radiologic technologist (MRT) certificate and define the term "radiologist assistant" as an individual who holds an advanced-level MRT certificate. Require that radiologist assistants only practice under the supervision of a radiologist, and require the Board of Medical Radiologic Technology, with approval of the Medical Board, to adopt rules for education and training, practice restrictions, and supervision levels required for radiologist assistants.

In the 2016 Sunset Review of the Texas Medical Board (TMB), the Texas Sunset Commission (TSC) unanimously approved a decision regarding recognition of the radiologist assistant (RA).

The statutory amendment for this recommendation were added to HB 3040 and SB 315 for the 85th regular session of the Texas Legislature. The previously approved TSC recommendation for the RA should again be considered and previously submitted statutory language added to legislation in the 2019 Texas Legislative Session.

RAs are often unable to obtain credentials at Texas hospitals because they are not recognized in statute like other healthcare professionals working in a hospital. Hospitals cannot distinguish between the education level, qualifications, supervision levels, and scope of practice because RAs are not recognized in statute or rules. There are also no set disciplinary procedures for RA who violate ethical or practice standards and no way to track the RA's supervising radiologist or radiology group.

Thank you,
Kathryn Whitfield

Any Alternative or New Recommendations on This Agency:

Establish disciplinary procedures for RA's who violate ethical or practice standards.
TSC approved recommendations for the RA should be added to legislation in the 2019 Texas Legislative Session.

Recognize the RA in statute and/or rules in order to obtain credentials in Texas hospitals.

My Comment Will Be Made Public: I agree