

From: [Sunset Advisory Commission](#)
To: [Janet Wood](#)
Subject: FW: Form submission from: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Public/After Publication)
Date: Thursday, June 19, 2014 1:52:49 PM

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

From: sundrupal@capitol.local [<mailto:sundrupal@capitol.local>]
Sent: Thursday, June 19, 2014 12:55 PM
To: Sunset Advisory Commission
Subject: Form submission from: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Public/After Publication)

Submitted on Thursday, June 19, 2014 - 12:55

Agency: DEPARTMENT STATE HEALTH SERVICES DSHS

First Name: Susan

Last Name: Applegate

Title: MRT (R) (CT) ARRT, BAS

Organization you are affiliated with:

City: Longview

State: Texas

Your Comments About the Staff Report, Including Recommendations Supported or

Opposed: I was licensed as a radiographer in 2002 and have had experience in a hospital setting, a clinic setting and in education as well. CT was my primary modality for 7 years of my career. Our service to the public is a necessary tool used to diagnose and treat patients with acute and chronic conditions. How many patients come into the ED or any other medical facility

to be seen and ultimately end up in radiology for an exam? We are the determining factor in how treatment progresses for the patient...from minor fractures to cancer treatments. While radiology is a necessary tool, it is dangerous if not used with caution. Radiographers have an understanding of why the ALARA principle is used. We understand the damage at the cellular level. We understand how to adjust the dosage based on patient circumstance.

As a licensed radiographer, patients can have the confidence knowing we are doing everything possible to lower that dose but still have a diagnostic image. This is especially important during CT which produces a great deal of radiation. I am educated on how to adjust the pitch, adjust the slice thickness and I am educated on my anatomy to make sure I cover the area of interest as well. How can we ensure that our patients are receiving quality diagnostic studies? How can you ensure that when YOU go to get a radiologic examination, that YOU are being provided a safe and optimal exam? Licensure is the only way to regulate safety of the practice by radiographers.

Licensure ensures we have the experience and the training to administer radiation appropriately and responsibly. Our credentials speak loudly to patients and other co-workers as well. I am proud of my area of expertise. I am confident that when a patient asks me a question about the exam, I can educate the patient...because I am educated. Please reconsider your position. Radiation exposure must be closely monitored...please realize the dangerous potential of having uneducated, unlicensed personnel administering radiation to your loved one or yourself!

Any Alternative or New Recommendations on This Agency: N/A

My Comment Will Be Made Public: I agree