

From: [Sunset Advisory Commission](#)
To: [Janet Wood](#); [Brittany Roberson](#)
Subject: FW: Sunset Commission Report
Date: Friday, June 13, 2014 8:28:25 AM

From: Diane Baltzell
Sent: Friday, June 13, 2014 12:25 AM
To: Sunset Advisory Commission
Subject: Sunset Commission Report

Dear Dr. Buckingham,

I am writing to ask that you and the other members of the Sunset Commission reconsider your recommendation to remove Respiratory Care Practitioners from licensed status in the State of Texas. I believe this would have a negative impact on public safety by allowing individuals who lack adequate education and training to care for critically ill patients in health care facilities. This could also allow credentialed clinicians who have faced disciplinary action or loss of license in another state to care for patients in Texas healthcare facilities.

The provisions of our licensed status as contained in Title 25 of the Texas Administrative Code, Subchapter E, Chapter 140 establishes clear requirements for minimum education levels, criminal background checks, and review of other State's disciplinary actions before a license to practice in Texas is granted. More importantly, the act establishes a Scope of Practice that specifies the RCPs' ability to care for patients under the direction of a physician and within defined parameters. This scope is not defined by any other document or organization on a state or national level.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane Baltzell, RRT

Allen, TX