

From: [Sunset Advisory Commission](#)
To: [Janet Wood](#)
Subject: FW: Form submission from: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Public/After Publication)
Date: Monday, June 23, 2014 3:11:22 PM

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

From: sundrupal@capitol.local [<mailto:sundrupal@capitol.local>]
Sent: Monday, June 23, 2014 1:30 PM
To: Sunset Advisory Commission
Subject: Form submission from: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Public/After Publication)

Submitted on Monday, June 23, 2014 - 13:29

Agency: DEPARTMENT STATE HEALTH SERVICES DSHS

First Name: Curtis

Last Name: Carey

Title: Respiratory Therapist

Organization you are affiliated with: Parkland Hospital

City: Dallas

State: Texas

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

July 23 2014

This is from a 4th grade student after career day:

Thank you for taking time out of your day to speak with us and tell us many important things about respiratory therapists. You made it all very interesting and fascinating. I also might want to be a respiratory therapist someday because I want to save lives. But I know that if choose that job than sometimes somebody would not make it, but I would try my best and work my hardest! I am glad you could teach me! Thanks.

Over the years, I and over 14, 000 other Respiratory Therapists have worked hard as licensed professionals to become an important part of the professional community. We work alongside doctors, nurses and other professionals to be an important part of making a difference in our patients' lives and the lives of their families. To be an influence on young people of the world at times like career day and help the children understand that if you work hard in this country it pays off. I was personally shocked when I heard that it was being suggested to de-license my profession. A profession that I and many others have work through many years of college for, the way we have become accepted and recognize as someone work makes a difference in peoples' lives as a licensed profession.

I have worked at Parkland Hospital for 15 years in this profession. Here is a list of some of my professional responsibilities:

- Direct management of mechanical ventilation providing necessary life support for patients unable to sustain life on their own.
- Direct management of a person's airway and assistance in intubation (inserting an artificial airway to sustain life)
- Direct removal, replacement and management of tracheostomies (temporary or long term tub placed in the neck to provide an airway).

- Direct management of more sophisticated mechanical ventilation for severe life support issues such as High Frequency Ventilation (HFOV) & Volumetric Diffusive Respirator (VDR).
- Routinely administering prescription medications including bronchodilators, antibiotics, anti-cholinergics, vaso-dilators, corticosteroid and surfactant agents.
- Assisting the physician in diagnosing cardio-pulmonary disease by performing diagnostic procedures (invasive & non-invasive) and patient assessment
- Part of the Rapid Response Team (RAT) which includes a physician, nurse and respiratory to troubleshoot patient deterioration and de-compensation in order to prevent needs for artificial airway, life support and sustain life
- Perform CPR on patients of all ages from Neonates to adults.
- Administer medical gases such as oxygen, nitric oxide and helium
- Provides counseling and rehabilitation to patients with cardio-pulmonary diseases
- Functions as members of the Extracorporeal Life Support team
- Works with critically ill patients in all intensive care units (ICUs) where we are a large part of the critical care team an sustaining life.
- Provide Respiratory rehabilitation for patients after they are extubated (removal of breathing tube) or recovering from injuries, providing deep breathing techniques with or without breathing apprentices
- Provide life sustaining BIPAP (mask ventilation) to patients in ICU's, Emergency Room and general ward areas to prevent deterioration, de-compensation and need for an artificial airway.
- Provide education, lectures and training labs on mechanical ventilators and other aspects of respiratory care to physician, nurses and other medical professionals.

To no longer provide these lifesaving, educational measures to the healthcare profession and medical community would be dis-service to the people and families of this city. I can speak for RCP's here in Dallas Texas when I say; we have become a vital part of a health care team that requires licensure and quality service to patients and families. To become a non-licensure state would be a great disservice to Texas and the Dallas community I currently live in. Thank you for your time
Curtis D. Carey BS, RRT, RCP

Any Alternative or New Recommendations on This Agency: My recommendation is not to deregulate RCPs', but for the Respiratory Care Practitioners program to either remain with the DSHS or to be transferred to the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation.

My Comment Will Be Made Public: I agree