

**From:** [Sunset Advisory Commission](#)  
**To:** [Janet Wood](#); [Brittany Roberson](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Form submission from: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Public/After Publication)  
**Date:** Friday, June 06, 2014 4:09:31 PM

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

From: sundrupal@capitol.local [<mailto:sundrupal@capitol.local>]  
Sent: Friday, June 06, 2014 2:58 PM  
To: Sunset Advisory Commission  
Subject: Form submission from: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Public/After Publication)

Submitted on Friday, June 6, 2014 - 14:57

Agency: DEPARTMENT STATE HEALTH SERVICES DSHS

First Name: Margie

Last Name: Doty

Title: Respiratory Clinical Specialist

Organization you are affiliated with: Baylor St Luke's Hospital

City: Houston

State: Texas

Your Comments About the Staff Report, Including Recommendations Supported or Opposed: I have been a Respiratory Therapist for 21 years and I believe it is VERY important for therapists to be licensed and required to maintain a minimal level of proficiency in order to keep that licensure. A therapist like myself, who passed the NBRC exam many years ago, is not required to renew that credential. So, without licensure, there would be no mandate for continuing education for someone like me. In a field which involves something so critical as the very life and breath of critically ill patients, I would think that the department which is responsible for the health and wellbeing of the public would want to assure that the Respiratory Therapists delivering the very life-breath to that public would be somewhat concerned with the ongoing education of those Respiratory Therapists.

Any Alternative or New Recommendations on This Agency: The licensing agency does not routinely check our education requirements, although we all know that they can audit us at any time, and that keeps most of us honest. So, they are not maintaining those records. Their main responsibility is to take our dues and issue our licenses. When I worked in California as a traveling RT, I was able to call up their licensing agency and talk to the same one or two people every time I called, and they usually remembered me! Here, in Texas, you are on hold for an ungodly amount of time, never talk to the same person twice, and nobody really seems to know what is going on. So, might I suggest that rather than doing away with this department, you streamline it.

My Comment Will Be Made Public: I agree