

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 09, 2014 7:51:07 AM

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

From: sundrupal@capitol.local [<mailto:sundrupal@capitol.local>]
Sent: Saturday, June 07, 2014 10:56 AM
To: Sunset Advisory Commission
Subject: Form submission from: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Public/After Publication)

Submitted on Saturday, June 7, 2014 - 10:56

Agency: DEPARTMENT STATE HEALTH SERVICES DSHS

First Name: Kristina

Last Name: Galpin

Title: Ms.

Organization you are affiliated with: Dell Children's Medical Center of Central Texas

City: Austin

State: Texas

Your Comments About the Staff Report, Including Recommendations Supported or Opposed: I'm writing to express my opposition to the proposed recommendation to deregulate Respiratory Care Practioner licensing. The practice of respiratory care is a highly specialized field with most of our work being performed in an intensive care setting on patients who require life support. Our current accrediting body, the National Board of Respiratory Care does not regulate the members of our profession. Under their current requirements, each Registered Respiratory Therapist is only required to maintain 20 continuing education units every five years as opposed to the current licensing requirement of 24 CEUs every two years. This lower requirement would lower the standards of our practice of care. With the everchanging healthcare industry, newer and better ways of ventilating and treating our patients are discovered each day and my concern is that if RCPs are no longer held to the higher requirement of continuing education the benefits of these advancing therapies will be lost to our patients. Another concern for the deregulation is that it could allow other RCPs who have been reprimanded or lost their license in another state for incompetence could be allowed to practice our profession in Texas, potentially putting patients in harm's way.

Any Alternative or New Recommendations on This Agency: I recommend that the Respiratory Care Practioner licensing program remain with DHS or be transferred to the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

My Comment Will Be Made Public: I agree