

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 5:08:25 PM

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

From: sundrupal@capitol.local [<mailto:sundrupal@capitol.local>]
Sent: Thursday, June 19, 2014 4:26 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 - 16:25

Agency: DEPARTMENT STATE HEALTH SERVICES DSHS

First Name: Bridgett

Last Name: Geist

Title: Radiography Educator

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Email: bgeist@angelina.edu

City: Lufkin

State: Texas

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

June 19, 2014

Bridgett Geist

bgeist@angelina.edu

Dear Texas Sunset Commission,

I am a radiologic technologist (and a radiography instructor) writing in OPPOSITION of the Sunset Advisory Commission's Report- Issue 3- recommendation to discontinue medical radiologic technologist licensing.

When I began considering a career in the radiography profession, I had no prior knowledge about what was involved. I did not know any radiographers, and I just thought that the information in the college catalog "sounded" like an interesting career path. At that time I thought, "How hard can this job be? Just get the patient to stand over there and push a button!" Oh, how wrong I was. I have a Bachelor's degree in Chemistry from Texas A&M University. Later I received my teacher's certification to teach math and/or chemistry. I share this information with you to let you know that I had good study habits and time management/organizational skills. I can honestly tell you that I NEVER had to study as hard as I did while in the radiography program. I had no idea how much information one needed to become proficient in the field of radiography. Apparently, the Texas Sunset Commission does not have this knowledge now.

I was unaware of the immense amount of knowledge that must be acquired to afford me the opportunity to carry out my responsibilities as a professional radiographer. One must attain vast knowledge in areas such as human anatomy and physiology, the physics that supports radiography, proper patient care, pathology, and radiobiology. To sunset medical radiologic technology licensing would allow a person to enter the medical field without this necessary prerequisite training. This would open the flood gates for cases of improper use of technology due to lack of proper training, which would lead to under-exposure or over-exposure due to improper doses of radiation. This would certainly increase the probability of an incorrect diagnosis by the radiologist, which in turn may lead to unnecessary pain and suffering or death for the patient.

I have to ask you this question. When you take your child to a doctor's office or an outpatient clinic to have an x-ray, are you going to worry about how much radiation your child receives? Are you even going to know? Will the person performing the x-ray know? Without the proper training and licensing, your child may be exposed to higher levels of radiation. But don't worry too much about this....the person who cuts their hair will still need to be licensed.

Sincerely,
Bridgett Geist

Any Alternative or New Recommendations on This Agency: keep licensure

My Comment Will Be Made Public: I agree