

From: [Sunset Advisory Commission](#)
To: [Janet Wood](#)
Subject: FW: Form submission from: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Public/After Publication)
Date: Wednesday, June 18, 2014 4:26:51 PM

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

From: sundrupal@capitol.local [<mailto:sundrupal@capitol.local>]
Sent: Wednesday, June 18, 2014 4:04 PM
To: Sunset Advisory Commission
Subject: Form submission from: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Public/After Publication)

Submitted on Wednesday, June 18, 2014 - 16:03

Agency: DEPARTMENT STATE HEALTH SERVICES DSHS

First Name: Albert

Last Name: Hernandez

Title: CEO

Organization you are affiliated with: Fayette Medical Supply, Inc.

City: Bastrop & La Grange

State: Texas

Your Comments About the Staff Report, Including Recommendations Supported or Opposed: My opposition to the deregulation of Respiratory Care Practitioners (RCP). In May 2014, the Sunset Advisory Commission Staff Report recommended to discontinue 19 regulatory programs currently housed at the Department of State Health Services, which includes my license. Licensed RCPs' must complete a specialized, college-based educational program from an accredited college, must complete a national credentialing process by the National Board for Respiratory Care with rigorous exams to apply for state licensure, and must yearly complete 12 continuing education credits. Please note that our National Board for Respiratory Care does not regulate respiratory therapist, but initially issues a certificate to practice respiratory care, also provides ethical standards to follow, but has no continuing method of on-going regulation. If we work in respiratory care under a medical director, then we continue our certification. I obtained my in 1974, and actually started my medical training as a medic in U.S. Army, during the Vietnam war.

Any Alternative or New Recommendations on This Agency:

My recommendation to the Sunset Commission is not to deregulate RCPs', but for the Respiratory Care Practitioners program to either remain with the DSHS, or be transferred to the Texas Department of Licensing & Regulation.

Without licensure, training and discipline of therapist would be limited.

Although hospitals are highly regulated, our license truly provides regulatory authority.

Without licensure, our yearly education credits would not be required.

I am proud that Texas has had licensed RCPs' and deregulation would be a step backwards.

My Comment Will Be Made Public: I agree