

**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 3:14:51 PM

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

From: sundrupal@capitol.local [<mailto:sundrupal@capitol.local>]  
Sent: Monday, June 23, 2014 10:29 AM  
To: Sunset Advisory Commission  
Subject: Form submission from: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Public/After Publication)

Submitted on Monday, June 23, 2014 - 10:29

Agency: DEPARTMENT STATE HEALTH SERVICES DSHS

First Name: Danelle

Last Name: Jensen

Title: Radiology Supervisor

Organization you are affiliated with: Clear Lake Regional Medical Center

City: Webster

State: Texas

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

Danelle Jensen MSP, BSHCS, RT (R)(M)

Webster, Tx.

June 23, 2014

To : Texas Sunset Advisory Commission

As a Radiological technologist, mammography technologist, educator and supervisor I am disturbed to find a recommendation to remove licensure in this field of medical care. With removal of licenses, is it not possible that health care providers would see this down grade as a green light to just higher button pushers with a limited number of REAL technologists overseeing the exams? We have seen the trend where many of our emergency rooms and doctors' offices are full of less educated Physician Assistants rather than actual doctors. To diagnose a cold or flu seems reasonable, but not when we are faced with critical and/or emergency patients. The kind of patients radiology personnel see on a daily basis.

Technologists are responsible for administering ionizing radiation to patients by following critical guidelines of ALARA. Delivering a radiation dose As Low As Reasonably Achievable. This is not acquired by button pushing, but by understanding how X-rays are produced, which side of the beam provides more attenuation, consideration of patient habitus and understanding disease process. It takes a trained eye and years of highly standardized experience in order to provide patients with the best care possible from our department.

It is imperative a licensed technologist perform all radiology exams. We simply do not just take pictures, but view patient anatomy and disease process. We perform fluoroscopy exams such as barium enemas, upper GIs and

pediatric intussusception exams in lieu of heading to the operating room. We provide live X-ray images in the OR for surgeons for a variety of cases including orthopedic, urology, neurosurgery and cardio-vascular exams. These cannot be provided by someone who is not licensed.

Clear Lake Regional Medical Center advertises we provide radiology exams to the right patient, on the right site with the lowest dose possible every time. Unless you have educated licensed individuals administering a dose of radiation, this claim will be false. Patients are fearful of radiation in general. Technologists provide information to the patient to put them at ease; and can explain the use of lead aprons and other safety equipment in place to reduce exposure.

Without licensure, patients will receive a lower level of care by uneducated individuals, a higher dose of radiation due to administer error in patient positioning and repeat images due to a myriad of technical factors. What technical factors? A licensed technologist can tell you.

Any Alternative or New Recommendations on This Agency: Increase liscence fee in order require Radiological Technologists maintain professional liscence

My Comment Will Be Made Public: I agree