

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 30, 2014 8:44:06 AM

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

From: sundrupal@capitol.local [<mailto:sundrupal@capitol.local>]
Sent: Monday, June 30, 2014 1:56 AM
To: Sunset Advisory Commission
Subject: Form submission from: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Public/After Publication)

Submitted on Monday, June 30, 2014 - 01:56

Agency: DEPARTMENT STATE HEALTH SERVICES DSHS

First Name: Kyle

Last Name: Kettle

Title: RN

Organization you are affiliated with: Critical Care Unit

City: Houston

State: Texas

Your Comments About the Staff Report, Including Recommendations Supported or Opposed: My comment is in regards to the recommendation to delicense respiratory therapists. I oppose this recommendation as it is a dangerous one to make. Currently in healthcare, in the ICU about 1/3 of our patients are on mechanical ventilators. As a critical care nurse my job has a lot of responsibility, and I rely on respiratory therapists to monitor the ventilator while I care for other aspects of the patients care. The fact is that most nurses do not have the same level of knowledge that respiratory therapists have about how a ventilator works, or how to set them up. I believe that removing the requirement of having a license to practice as a respiratory therapist would greatly reduce the level of care that a patient gets. Texas sets a benchmark in the field of healthcare, the Texas medical center is undoubtedly the largest medical center in the world. Why would we lower the standards of healthcare in a state that is known for having one of the best healthcare systems? Put yourself in the shoes of future patients if you were on a mechanical ventilator. Would you want to be cared for by a licensed professional, or just anyone who decided they find the respiratory system interesting?

Any Alternative or New Recommendations on This Agency: My recommendation is to keep respiratory therapists licensed.

My Comment Will Be Made Public: I agree