

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 11, 2014 8:04:39 AM

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

From: sundrupal@capitol.local [<mailto:sundrupal@capitol.local>]
Sent: Wednesday, June 11, 2014 4:42 AM
To: Sunset Advisory Commission
Subject: Form submission from: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Public/After Publication)

Submitted on Wednesday, June 11, 2014 - 04:41

Agency: DEPARTMENT STATE HEALTH SERVICES DSHS

First Name: Benjamin

Last Name: Leal

Title: Registered Respiratory Therapist

Organization you are affiliated with: St. Davids

City: Austin

State: Texas

Your Comments About the Staff Report, Including Recommendations Supported or Opposed: By including Respiratory Therapists in your list of professions that would be de-licensed, I feel that patient safety in healthcare throughout the state would be compromised. Respiratory Therapists require a very specialized training, with a specific skill set that other professions only receive brief education in. RT's are often involved with the most critical patients, and their procedures are often integral to the survival of the patient. RT's are most heavily relied upon in Intensive Care Units to provide specialized pulmonary care, and to allow people with no license to practice this profession would place these already at-risk patients in even more danger. Although RT's do not have strong legal representation, and many of their procedures fall into other professions scopes of practice, Respiratory Therapists receive up to 500 hours of didactic and clinical training before being able to practice, making them the natural choice for any issues regarding pulmonary function and protecting the airway. Licensure is a very good way to maintain patient safety throughout the state of Texas.

Any Alternative or New Recommendations on This Agency: Maintain license requirements for RRT's in the state of Texas.

My Comment Will Be Made Public: I agree