

From: [Sunset Advisory Commission](#)
To: [Janet Wood](#)
Subject: FW: Form submission from: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Public/After Publication)
Date: Friday, June 20, 2014 9:14:42 AM

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

From: sundrupal@capitol.local [<mailto:sundrupal@capitol.local>]
Sent: Friday, June 20, 2014 9:06 AM
To: Sunset Advisory Commission
Subject: Form submission from: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Public/After Publication)

Submitted on Friday, June 20, 2014 - 09:06

Agency: DEPARTMENT STATE HEALTH SERVICES DSHS

First Name: Kelsey

Last Name: Loftis

Title: Radiology/Mammography Technologist

Organization you are affiliated with: TSRT/ ARRT

City: Fort Worth

State: Texas

Your Comments About the Staff Report, Including Recommendations Supported or Opposed:
Kelsey Loftis
Fort Worth, TX

Dear Texas Sunset Commission,

I am a radiology technologist. I am writing in OPPOSITION of the Sunset Advisory Commission's Staff Report-Issue 3- recommendation to discontinue medical radiologic technologist licensing.

As a registered technologist for over five years, I can comprehend the importance of a technologist being trained and registered. Without the background knowledge and understanding of how radiation works and how it affects our bodies, someone could be careless and take multiple images on an individual without even realizing how harmful this is. The training that I received throughout my radiologic technology education was intense and thorough. We were taught how to position patients in appropriate ways to achieve the best quality of image using as low dose as reasonably achievable.

Also we use appropriate lead materials to protect the patients, family members, and ourselves. We were taught that taking multiple images is bad practice and you want to do the best that you can in order to keep the patient's safe. Someone that doesn't have the specific training to position each body part in the correct manner would be taking more images in order to get a diagnostic radiograph. Without my education, I would also not know how to keep myself safe from radiation at work. Discontinuing medical radiologic licensing would not only be a risk for harming patients, but the employees as well.

Also, as a radiology technologist we need to be able to comprehend reports written by radiologists as well as other physicians and without the education of medical terminology and the clinical experience through school, this would not be possible. Although it may look like we are just "button pushers," we work with Radiologists, Surgeons, and physicians as a team to perform biopsies, surgeries, and many, many

other exams. By licensing Radiology Technologists in Texas, it would ensure every individual patient and employee, safety and quality diagnostic imaging.

It is imperative that the State of Texas continue the licensing and regulation of radiologic technologists. Licensure for radiologic technologists ensures that patients are being treated by individuals who have met education and certification standards. Licensed radiologic technologists administer ionizing radiation, a known carcinogen, in the lowest dose possible to patients to create medical images and to treat cancers and other illnesses. Unlicensed personnel do not have formalized education to administer low doses of radiation and still achieve quality images or effective treatments. Licensure for radiologic technologists preserves the state's right to provide disciplinary action for individuals who may not treat patients according to professional standards or administer radiation correctly. Without licensure, the state cannot protect its citizens from untrained individuals. Licensed radiologic technologists provide radiologists and other healthcare providers with technically consistent, correctly positioned images, which improve the consistency and accuracy of the providers' diagnosis. Unlicensed personnel increase the potential for inconsistent or improperly positioned images, reducing the diagnostic effectiveness of exams and increasing the need for repeat imaging procedures.

Repeat imaging increases radiation exposure and medical costs. Licensed radiologic technologists adapt procedures and technical factors to each individual patient's needs. The radiologic technologists' training allows for technologists to evaluate the patient's medical status, patient's history, underlying pathologic processes, and physical factors to create a quality diagnostic image or therapy that is truly individualized for that patient.

Regards,

Kelsey Loftis

Any Alternative or New Recommendations on This Agency: NA

My Comment Will Be Made Public: I agree