

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 8:15:10 AM

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

From: sundrupal@capitol.local [<mailto:sundrupal@capitol.local>]
Sent: Sunday, June 22, 2014 4:59 AM
To: Sunset Advisory Commission
Subject: Form submission from: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Public/After Publication)

Submitted on Sunday, June 22, 2014 - 04:58

Agency: DEPARTMENT STATE HEALTH SERVICES DSHS

First Name: Carol

Last Name: Maddox

Title: Ms

Organization you are affiliated with:

City: McKinney

State: Texas

Your Comments About the Staff Report, Including Recommendations Supported or Opposed: I am extremely opposed to deregulating Respiratory Therapists.

Respiratory therapists give medications, perform CPR, draw arterial blood gases, perform pulmonary function tests, set up patients in respiratory distress and with sleep apnea on Bi-Pap, intubate and set up patients in respiratory failure on ventilators and care for those patients making necessary adjustments to save those patients' lives, and do oral care on those patients which has cut down on pneumonia and respiratory infections on ventilator patients tremendously. They do good trach care, cleaning and changing out tracheostomy tubes keeping them free from infection and clogging up with secretions and blood. They suction out secretions and help patients cough up secretions. They do CPT and help patients with acapellas, flutter valves, and vibratory vests. They draw blood and start IV's. Respiratory therapists provide pulmonary rehab, and education. They are a crucial part of patient care and are the FIRST discipline called when a patient's health status declines (when the RT is not the one who discovered the problem which MANY times is the case). Deregulating respiratory therapy is dangerous and not in the best interest of patient care.

Any Alternative or New Recommendations on This Agency: Bachelor degrees should be the minimum standard for respiratory therapists. The majority of respiratory therapists have two years of prerequisites, math and science education plus two years of respiratory classes and clinicals. That deserves a bachelor's degree.

My Comment Will Be Made Public: I agree