

**From:** [Sunset Advisory Commission](#)  
**To:** [Janet Wood](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Form submission from: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Public/After Publication)  
**Date:** Tuesday, June 24, 2014 4:12:22 PM

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

From: sundrupal@capitol.local [<mailto:sundrupal@capitol.local>]  
Sent: Monday, June 23, 2014 5:56 PM  
To: Sunset Advisory Commission  
Subject: Form submission from: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Public/After Publication)

Submitted on Monday, June 23, 2014 - 17:55

Agency: DEPARTMENT STATE HEALTH SERVICES DSHS

First Name: Darlene

Last Name: Metter

Title: Radiologist in San Antonio practicing for over 20 years

Organization you are affiliated with:

City: San Antonio

State: Texas

Your Comments About the Staff Report, Including Recommendations Supported or Opposed: I am highly concerned about the proposed Sunset Commission's recommendation to close Department of State Health Services (DSHS) licensure programs for licensed medical physicists and medical radiology technologists in Texas. This will limit the number of qualified individuals that can help to ensure a high level of quality imaging. Having a certain level of professional competence in radiology procedures is important for appropriate and quality patient care. Without licensing programs, which add a certain level of specialty competency, mishaps involving ionizing radiation in diagnostic and therapeutic studies will undoubtedly occur. Most often this is likely due to miscalculation, misapplication and simply limited qualifications (knowledge, training and experience) regarding the individual providing the service. As a radiologist, it is important that an appropriately qualified, licensed medical physicist oversee the imaging devices using ionizing radiation (i.e. CT scanners, fluoroscopy units, nuclear medicine/ PET scanners) and that an appropriately qualified medical technologist perform the imaging. If the studies are incorrectly acquired (instrumentation and/or technique), a patient will be unnecessarily exposed to radiation that would be limited in diagnostic value, or need to be repeated with hence, double the radiation exposure or more. Hence, I urge you to withdraw the recommendation to discontinue these licensing programs in Texas. This Sunset recommendation is clearly not in the interest of the people of Texas nor their healthcare.

Any Alternative or New Recommendations on This Agency: Continue the licensure programs for licensed medical physicists and medical radiology technologist in Texas to assure a certain level of specialty competence in diagnostic and therapeutic procedures using ionizing radiation. This is for the safety of the people of Texas and to uphold quality imaging in their healthcare.

My Comment Will Be Made Public: I agree