

I, Kris Perez MRT License # 94156 am giving my written testimony regarding Issue # 3  
*The Unmanageable Scope of DSHS' Regulatory Functions Reduces Needed Focus on Protecting Public Health.*

### **Health and Safety & Regulation by Private Sector**

The Role of any government should be the protection of its citizens. Deregulation of the Medical Radiological Technologist (MRT) & Medical Physicist (MP) licenses will decrease public health and safety. Licensure guarantees that the MRT and MP are educated & registered. This ensures that all citizens in the State of Texas will have an MRT properly trained in handling Radiation & that the Radiation Machine in use is properly inspected by Licensed personnel. While some healthcare facilities seek higher accreditation most do not and simply seek CMS which doesn't cover X-RAY and Fluoroscopy. With deregulation the State leaves its citizens unprotected mainly due to the fact that the privately funded accrediting bodies can change its policies and lower standards. Some of the health and safety concerns with improper use of radiation, overexposure, and patient positioning may lead to but not limited to.

- Skin Errythmea, Cataracts, Thyroid hyper or hypo activity, Loss of fetus if patient is pregnant. The increase of patient healthcare related injuries which may leave some paralyzed or possibly to death.

It is important that the patient (citizen) receives quality care and that all healthcare personnel (MRT's) are licensed and all radiation equipment properly inspected by MP's so that all patients are ensured by its government that they are protected in a time of an emergency.

### **Regulatory Activity**

The Report states that the Sunset staff considered the number of licensees, complaints, enforcement and investigations for each program and yielded low results. In my experience this is due to MRT's, MP's and State Radiation Inspectors of the DSHS working integrally together to ensure the patients (Citizen) safety and care. As an MRT if a machine is reading higher than average dosages we contact the manufacturer for repair. Once it is repaired we contact the MP for a Radiation Survey so that the patient (citizen) receives the proper dose so not to increase Radiation dose to the public. During a state inspection the inspector reviews the MP's survey and does their own survey to check that the survey was done properly to ensure that patients (citizens) are protected.

**Conclusion:** It is important for the Government to review its standards and practices to ensure its people that they are being protected by the agencies designed for this. I understand the purpose for the review but disagree with its results. It is the State that should ensure that its citizens (patients) are protected not private entities. The protection of its people should only come from the only entity that has its citizen's best interests at heart, its government.