

**From:** [Sunset Advisory Commission](#)  
**To:** [Janet Wood](#); [Brittany Roberson](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Form submission from: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Public/After Publication)  
**Date:** Monday, June 09, 2014 5:24:56 PM

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

From: sundrupal@capitol.local [<mailto:sundrupal@capitol.local>]  
Sent: Monday, June 09, 2014 3:33 PM  
To: Sunset Advisory Commission  
Subject: Form submission from: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Public/After Publication)

Submitted on Monday, June 9, 2014 - 15:33

Agency: DEPARTMENT STATE HEALTH SERVICES DSHS

First Name: Jose

Last Name: Rojas

Title: Associate Professor

Organization you are affiliated with: University of Texas Medical Branch

City: Galveston

State: Texas

Your Comments About the Staff Report, Including Recommendations Supported or Opposed: Although I definitely concede that the DSHS could be better managed, I am vehemently opposed to the suggestion that better management can be achieved through the deregulation of the Respiratory Care profession. The establishment of the Act in 1986 was an important move towards providing laws and regulations that protect public health and ensure safety. The dissolution of the act and the regulatory program associated with its enforcement will gravely endanger the population of our state. Given that a major function of respiratory therapists is in the management of life support systems and that the current state of the art ventilator can be used on any patient population (newborn to adult; 500 grams in size to 180 kilograms) with the flip of a switch, it is ludicrous to leave the practice of this profession without regulation. The scope of ventilator application has become so specialized that very little beyond an introduction to terminology is covered in nursing and medical school curricula. These professions rely on therapists to be well versed in the theory and application of mechanical ventilation. The rapidity with which this field evolves demands that practitioners remain current in the practice and this can only be accomplished through regulation.

Any Alternative or New Recommendations on This Agency: Maintain the RCP Act and transfer the regulatory program. If the cost for maintaining the program requires increasing licensing fees then do so.

My Comment Will Be Made Public: I agree