

From: [Sunset Advisory Commission](#)
To: [Janet Wood](#)
Subject: FW: Proposal to deregulate Respiratory Therapists in Texas
Date: Friday, June 13, 2014 1:14:25 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

From: Donna Taylor [mailto:DONNA.TAYLOR@childrens.com]
Sent: Friday, June 13, 2014 11:30 AM
To: Sunset Advisory Commission
Subject: Proposal to deregulate Respiratory Therapists in Texas

Members of the Sunset Advisory Committee,

I am a Respiratory Therapist and Extracorporeal Membrane Oxygenation (ECMO) Coordinator at Children's Medical Center in Dallas. I am writing to request that the Sunset Advisory Committee not recommend the deregulations of Respiratory Therapists in the state of Texas. The scope of practice for respiratory therapist is very broad in Texas. We operate under the license of a physician so can perform many responsibilities. My group of Respiratory Therapists are able to build, blood prime, initiate and manage emergencies, component changes and troubleshoot the heart lung machine used for extended bypass for the sickest of the sick patients we see here at the hospital. Respiratory therapists also administer heparin and other medications hourly to the ECMO system connected to the patient. Our longest continuous use on a patient is 80 days. Deregulating respiratory therapists would put the sickest children in the DFW metroplex and rest of Texas utilizing respiratory therapists at risk. Without licensure, I could no longer assure that individuals hired then trained to perform this most complex technologically challenging therapy would have the necessary continuing education or be without legal risk to my patients. I have attached a picture of the ECMO system to demonstrate the complexity of what we do every day here at Children's Medical Center Dallas.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter. I appreciate the efforts of our governing bodies to examine all Texas agencies and departments.

The fees associated with maintaining professional licensure are not minimal. I hope the commission would task these agencies to find a way for the large amount of monies garnered from licensure fees from the thousands of professionals in question in the state of Texas to enable the Department of Health Services to maintain licensures.

Sincerely,

Donna M. Taylor, RRT-NPS

ECMO Coordinator

Critical Care Services

Children's Medical Center

O: 214-456-8445

E: donna.taylor@childrens.com

ELSO Designated ECMO Center of Excellence



1935 Medical District Drive | C11220 | Dallas , TX 75235

Please consider the environment before printing this e-mail

This e-mail, facsimile, or letter and any files or attachments transmitted with it contains information that is confidential and privileged. This information is intended only for the use of the individual(s) and entity(ies) to whom it is addressed. If you are the intended recipient, further disclosures are prohibited without proper authorization. If you are not the intended recipient, any disclosure, copying, printing, or use of this information is strictly prohibited and possibly a violation of federal or state law and regulations. If you have received this information in error, please notify Children's Medical Center Dallas immediately at 214-456-4444 or via e-mail at privacy@childrens.com. Children's Medical Center Dallas and its affiliates hereby claim all applicable privileges related to this information.

