

From: [Sunset Advisory Commission](#)
To: [Janet Wood](#)
Subject: FW: Form submission from: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Public/After Publication)
Date: Thursday, June 19, 2014 5:13:36 PM

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

From: sundrupal@capitol.local [<mailto:sundrupal@capitol.local>]
Sent: Thursday, June 19, 2014 2:40 PM
To: Sunset Advisory Commission
Subject: Form submission from: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Public/After Publication)

Submitted on Thursday, June 19, 2014 - 14:39

Agency: DEPARTMENT STATE HEALTH SERVICES DSHS

First Name: Keith

Last Name: Varnes

Title: President

Organization you are affiliated with: Respiratory Associates of Texas

Email: keith@respiratoryassociates.com

City: Arlington

State: Texas

Your Comments About the Staff Report, Including Recommendations Supported or Opposed:

I oppose the recommendation to deregulate respiratory care practitioners.

Respiratory therapists work in a highly technical field and have direct responsibility for life sustaining interventions and equipment. Without central regulation there is no way to protect the public from individuals who should be either removed from the field or retrained through mandatory education. Without a central reporting system bad respiratory therapists will just be fired from one job only to show up at another, often with the new employer having no information on negative past performance. It would also allow employers to replace these highly trained individuals with unqualified, untrained, personnel. On-The-Job training is highly inappropriate for ventilator management. Would you like your child to be managed on a life sustaining ventilator by someone who just learned yesterday? Lawsuits may force the hospitals to keep only credentialed therapists, but how much money would you trade for your children? That scenario only works when it happens to someone else.

Any Alternative or New Recommendations on This Agency: Leave the regulation as-is.

My Comment Will Be Made Public: I agree