94 Freedom Street

 Hopedale, Mass 01747

 June 28, 2018

To The Office of the General Counsel

Department of Public Health

Board of Respiratory Care

 I am a practicing registered respiratory therapist and have worked at a local hospital for over twenty three years. I love my job and caring for my patients. I do not agree with the proposed Continuing Education changes for our license renewal. I feel the current 15 CEU’s is sufficient to maintain our licensure and that the proposed 30 CEU’s would be a hardship on many. In the hospital setting we are inundated with learning: this includes regular training with equipment, maintaining our many certifications (BLS, ACLS, PALS and NRP) as well as other safety protocols, competencies and sensitivity training throughout the year. We also attend seminars, conferences, online training and read medical journals to keep well informed and educated in the ever changing medical field. Most of this is done at our expense and on our limited time off. In the hospital setting we attend daily ICU rounds with doctors, nurses, pharmacist and other health care providers and gain much knowledge and experience from them.

 Respiratory Care can be a challenging career, I do not want to see it become harder and less appealing for people to become part of it. I see fewer young therapist in the field today and if these new changes go in to effect I feel a lot of the older well-seasoned therapist will simply retire. I feel our current level of licensing requirements are adequate to our field and I propose we keep them the same. Thank you for your time.

 Sincerely,

 Maura Mann RRT