July 28, 2018

Timothy P. Walsh

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The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Executive Office of Health and Human Services

Department of Public Health

Bureau of Health Professions Licensure

Board of Registration of Respiratory Care

239 Causeway Street, Suite 500

Boston, MA 02114

To whom it may concern:

I am writing this letter with regard to the Board’s new proposal for the continuing education required for renewal of respiratory therapist licensure. I feel that the proposed 30 hours of continuing education every 2 years serves no advantage to those of us in the respiratory care profession, but to the contrary, presents a hardship on us. Requiring an additional 15 “live conference” hours puts an undue burden on most therapists. The financial costs alone will be incredibly taxing. Those of us that live in geographically challenged areas will be forced to miss work, drive extensive distances, and pay exuberant hotel prices in order to attend what few conferences are available. This doesn’t seem fair, especially considering that our Nursing peers are only required to obtain 15 continuing education hours every 2 years (with NO limit on how many hours are earned online).

Thank you for your time, and I respectfully ask that you reconsider your proposal.

Sincerely,

Timothy P. Walsh, BS, RRT