

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: Thursday, June 05, 2014 5:33:41 PM

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

From: sundrupal@capitol.local [<mailto:sundrupal@capitol.local>]
Sent: Thursday, June 05, 2014 1:44 PM
To: Sunset Advisory Commission
Subject: Form submission from: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Public/After Publication)

Submitted on Thursday, June 5, 2014 - 13:43

Agency: DEPARTMENT STATE HEALTH SERVICES DSHS

First Name: Adriana

Last Name: Felts

Title: Professional COounselor

Organization you are affiliated with: Texas Counseling Association

City: San Antonio

State: Texas

Your Comments About the Staff Report, Including Recommendations Supported or Opposed: I am opposed to this possible change. As an LPC, I believe that recommendation 3.2 places the public at risk. The regulatory oversight provided by the Texas State Board of Examiners of Professional Counselors ensures that all LPCs are well trained and adhere to certain professional standards. These high standards of certification directly impact the level of care for those we serve. To hold a certification as an LPC in Texas, one must have a bachelors and a masters degree, among other requirements, yet none of the occupations currently licensed by TDLR are required to hold even a bachelor's degree. The impact of what we do is and will continue to greatly affect the mental health of those in our communities and should therefore, be regulated by an independent regulatory board that includes LPC's. I oppose the recommendation to transfer the Texas State Board of Examiners to the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation and to reconstitute this board as an advisory committee as specified in Recommendation 3.2.

Any Alternative or New Recommendations on This Agency: Keep the Texas State Board of Examiners as an independent board and not as a part of the TDLR.

My Comment Will Be Made Public: I agree