

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: Friday, June 06, 2014 11:59:57 AM

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

From: sundrupal@capitol.local [<mailto:sundrupal@capitol.local>]
Sent: Friday, June 06, 2014 9:00 AM
To: Sunset Advisory Commission
Subject: Form submission from: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Public/After Publication)

Submitted on Friday, June 6, 2014 - 09:00

Agency: DEPARTMENT STATE HEALTH SERVICES DSHS

First Name: Brandon

Last Name: Awbrey

Title: Counselor

Organization you are affiliated with:

City: Levelland

State: Texas

Your Comments About the Staff Report, Including Recommendations Supported or Opposed: Recommendation 3.2 places the public at risk. The regulatory oversight provided by the Texas State Board of Examiners of Professional Counselors which includes licensed professional counselors as well as public members ensures that all LPCs are well trained and adhere to high professional standards. The impact of LPCs on the health and safety of the clients they serve mandates the oversight of an independent regulatory board that includes experienced licensed professionals. Unlike the other professions recommended for transfer to the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation in Recommendation 3.2, Licensed Professional Counselors, Marriage and Family Therapists and Social Workers must hold advanced graduate degrees and are considered Health Professions under Texas law. None of the occupations currently licensed by TDLR are required to hold even a bachelor's degree

Any Alternative or New Recommendations on This Agency: It is important that highly educated and highly trained professionals in a field continue to provide leadership and oversight for the field rather than be relegated to an advisory role under the authority of those who may not understand our profession or have the training and background necessary to make decisions that are in the best interest of the public or the professionals in this field.

My Comment Will Be Made Public: I agree