

**From:** [Sunset Advisory Commission](#)  
**To:** [Cecelia Hartley](#)  
**Subject:** FW: HHSC Consolidation Recommendation  
**Date:** Wednesday, November 12, 2014 7:47:31 AM

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**From:** Michael Garrett  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 11, 2014 11:51 AM  
**To:** Sunset Advisory Commission  
**Subject:** HHSC Consolidation Recommendation

## SUNSET ADVISORY COMMISSION

Dear Commissioners:

I am a retired banker, having been employed by JP Morgan Chase for over 27 years. I must attribute much of my success to the services I received as a consumer of the DARS Division for Blind Services.

With that in mind, I am deeply disturbed and stand strongly opposed to the recommendation that DARS be consolidated into one agency under the HHSC. Such an agency would create tremendous difficulty for those who are blind or visually impaired to sift through the layers of red tape to find appropriate service delivery. In other states where this kind of agency has been employed, it has caused enormous slowdowns in people who are blind or visually impaired receiving adequate services.

In addition, we would lose a substantial amount of specialized expertise for those who really need it. Such expertise cannot be duplicated or substituted.

I also believe that such an agency might result in the loss of much needed federal funds which would facilitate the delivery of these services.

It is my hope that this recommendation will be reconsidered and DARS remains a stand alone agency, able to provide specialized services to people with disabilities.

Thank you for your consideration.

Rev. Michael E. Garrett