

From: [Sunset Advisory Commission](#)
To: [Dawn Roberson](#)
Subject: FW: Form submission from: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Public/After Publication)
Date: Wednesday, May 28, 2014 8:03:57 AM

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

From: sundrupal@capitol.local [<mailto:sundrupal@capitol.local>]
Sent: Tuesday, May 27, 2014 7:54 PM
To: Sunset Advisory Commission
Subject: Form submission from: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Public/After Publication)

Submitted on Tuesday, May 27, 2014 - 19:54

Agency: DEPARTMENT AGING AND DISABILITY SERVICES DADS

First Name: Jodi

Last Name: Bell

Title:

Organization you are affiliated with:

City: Deer park

State: Texas

Your Comments About the Staff Report, Including Recommendations Supported or Opposed:

I strongly oppose the above recommendations.

I am Deborah Beavers sister. She is 50 years old and she was severely injured in a car accident when she was six. Since August of 1974, she has been a resident of Richmond State Supported Living (an SSLC).

Staff members describe her as a very sweet and likeable person. Our family loves her and visits with her frequently, but we are unable to meet her physical and medical needs. She is unable to dress or wash herself, she must be turned every 2-3 hours to prevent sores. Her hip sockets were removed about 20 years ago so that she would not be frozen in a permanent position. She has no short term memory and is unable to make decisions. She has limited speech ability. She must be constantly monitored to prevent aspiration and/or choking. She is on numerous medications, some of which are to prevent and/or minimize seizures.

My sister is more than a number. I understand the need for budgets and cost-cutting, but it hurts me to think that people such as my sister are reduced to line items on a budget.

First of all my sister along with many, many others can not and will not benefit if they are moved to a community-based setting. If you just take the

time to visit some of the units such as Leon and talk with some of the patients and their families you will see that the needs of these people are exceptional and that is the reason that they reside in a SSLC where they can receive medical supervision and exceptional levels of support to meet their needs.

Secondly people such as my sister, who has resided in SSLC for nearly 40 years, would not emotionally or physically be able to handle the change. It would be devastating to them emotionally and physically.

Step outside the box, and put yourself in our shoes. Picture one of your family members needing one of these facilities!

Any Alternative or New Recommendations on This Agency:

I ask that everyone concerned with determining the future of Texas SSLC consider alternative was of addressing Texas budgetary concerns that do not involve closing SSLC, which care for some of Texas's most vulnerable citizens.

Please consider if one of your family members needed one of these facilities.
Put yourself in our shoes.

My Comment Will Be Made Public: I agree