

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 5:27:08 PM

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

From: sundrupal@capitol.local [<mailto:sundrupal@capitol.local>]
Sent: Thursday, June 05, 2014 3:37 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 - 15:36

Agency: DEPARTMENT STATE HEALTH SERVICES DSHS

First Name: Margaret

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

Please note that I currently hold dual licenses as an LPC and LMFT. As such 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 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.

The regulatory oversight provided by the Texas State Board of Examiners of Licensed Marriage and Family Therapists which includes licensed marriage and family therapists as well as public members ensures that all LMFTs are well trained and adhere to high professional standards. The impact of LMFTs 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, Licensed 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.

I strongly urge the Sunset Advisory Commission to reconsider Recommendation 3.2 to transfer the Texas State Board of Examiners to the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation and reconstitute this independent board as an advisory committee.

Thank you.
Margaret Peery, M.A., LMFT, LPC
President, Peery Group, Inc.

Any Alternative or New Recommendations on This Agency: See above.

My Comment Will Be Made Public: I agree