

From: [Sunset Advisory Commission](#)
To: [Cecelia Hartley](#)
Subject: FW: Sunset Commission Review of the Health and Human Services Commission
Date: Wednesday, October 08, 2014 8:07:10 AM

From: Janie Metzinger [mailto:jmetzinger@mhadallas.org]
Sent: Tuesday, October 07, 2014 8:28 PM
To: Sunset Advisory Commission
Subject: RE: Sunset Commission Review of the Health and Human Services Commission

Hello Mr. Levine,

Mental Health America of Greater Dallas is very concerned regarding Sunset Advisory Commission Staff Report on the Health and Human Services Commission. Among our concerns is the review of NorthSTAR in Issue 9, in which we have found:

- factual errors;
- statements that contain correct but incomplete information, which would lead the reader to an erroneous conclusion;
- criticisms of NorthSTAR that properly should be attributed to DSHS;
- statements of NorthSTAR attributes as if they were liabilities.

There are some positive aspects of the report, for example, we agree that NorthSTAR should transition to a model that will include primary care, and we agree that local input is critical to the determination of what the new model will be.

Our concerns about the staff version of the report, however are so serious that we believe that the Issue 9 chapter should be read only for editorial purposes at this time and should not be read for informational purposes as it is currently written. I will follow up with a more extensive suggestions for your staff and the Sunset Advisory Commission.

Sincerely,

Janie Metzinger
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From: Sunset Advisory Commission [mailto:Sunset@sunset.state.tx.us]
Sent: Tuesday, October 07, 2014 4:41 PM
To: Sunset Advisory Commission
Subject: Sunset Commission Review of the Health and Human Services Commission

October 7, 2014

Dear Recipient:

The Sunset Staff Report on the Health and Human Services Commission, as submitted to the Sunset Advisory Commission, is available for your review on our website, www.sunset.texas.gov. To request a hard copy of this report, contact our office. The Sunset Commission has scheduled a public hearing on this report for November 12 and 13. At that time public testimony will be taken. An agenda specifying the meeting time, location, and the order of agencies scheduled for discussion will be available on our website as soon as the meeting has been posted.

If you would like to comment on this report, the Commission would appreciate hearing from you. Your feedback would be most helpful if it includes the following elements:

- your position in support or opposition for any recommendation in the staff report;
- a clear, brief statement of suggested changes, if any, to these recommendations; and
- a clear, concise summary of any new issues or recommendations not included in the report that you would like the Sunset Commission to consider.

If you submit your response by Friday, October 17, we can provide this information to the Sunset Commission members before the public hearing. Comments received in response to a staff report are considered public records, and will be posted on the Sunset website and released to the public upon request.

Thank you for your assistance with the Sunset review process.

Ken Levine
Director
Sunset Advisory Commission

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