

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 11:56:06 AM

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

From: sundrupal@capitol.local [<mailto:sundrupal@capitol.local>]
Sent: Friday, June 06, 2014 10:48 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 - 10:48

Agency: DEPARTMENT STATE HEALTH SERVICES DSHS

First Name: Patricia

Last Name: Jensvold

Title: Counselor

Organization you are affiliated with: Licensed Professional Counselor/ Texas Counseling Association

City: Houston

State: Texas

Your Comments About the Staff Report, Including Recommendations Supported or Opposed: The Texas State Board of Examiners should NOT be subsumed as an advisory committee under the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation during the Sunset Review. As a Texas Licensed Professional Counselor for the past 27 years, I advocate for the high standards of the mental health professionals with graduate degrees, commensurate professional clinical and ethical training. Oversight by an independent board of educated and skilled professionals is necessary to protect the public in the mental health area. Licenses issued under the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation do not require the level of education, skills, or professional status required by the current Board of Examiners. There is no comparison of the skill and knowledge-base required of a license that does not even require a baccalaureate degree versus the counseling skill-set and knowledge base required by a graduate degree licensed professional counselor, marriage and family therapist or social worker.

Any Alternative or New Recommendations on This Agency:

Oversight by an independent board of educated and skilled professionals such as the existing Texas State Board of Examiners of Professional Counselors is necessary and appropriate to protect the public in the sensitive area of mental health care. Please continue the existing independent Texas State Board of Examiners of Professional Counselors, rather than subsuming the functionality as an advisory committee under a regulatory board that would not have the professional background and specific skill set to monitor for the public interest.

My Comment Will Be Made Public: I agree