

From: [Sunset Advisory Commission](#)
To: [Brittany Roberson](#); [Janet Wood](#)
Subject: FW: Form submission from: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Public/After Publication)
Date: Thursday, June 05, 2014 12:46:36 PM

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

From: sundrupal@capitol.local [<mailto:sundrupal@capitol.local>]
Sent: Thursday, June 05, 2014 11:28 AM
To: Sunset Advisory Commission
Subject: Form submission from: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Public/After Publication)

Submitted on Thursday, June 5, 2014 - 11:27

Agency: DEPARTMENT STATE HEALTH SERVICES DSHS

First Name: Rohanna

Last Name: Sykes

Title: Licensed Professional Counselor

Organization you are affiliated with: Texas State Board of Examiners for Professional Counselors

City: Spring

State: Texas

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

Recommendation 3.2 places the public at risk by decreasing the ability to adequately regulate this important field. The regulatory oversight provided by the Texas State Board of Examiners of Professional Counselors which includes licensed 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. In lieu of the recent violent attacks by people with emotional deficits and a lack of coping skills, it is important to keep adequately trained professionals in our society. If regulation is transferred to a Board that is not specifically aware of what is required or necessary to be a highly trained professional counselor the risk could lead to many more of these tragic events.

Currently Licensed Professional Counselors, Marriage and Family Therapists and Social Workers must hold advanced graduate degrees and are considered Health Professions under Texas law. These roles are best regulated by specialists in the field and a Board who stays apprised of current health trends and treatment.

Any Alternative or New Recommendations on This Agency: Keep LPC licenses regulated by the current Texas State Board for Professional Counselors

My Comment Will Be Made Public: I agree