

**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:** Wednesday, June 04, 2014 8:22:06 AM

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

From: sundrupal@capitol.local [<mailto:sundrupal@capitol.local>]  
Sent: Wednesday, June 04, 2014 8:05 AM  
To: Sunset Advisory Commission  
Subject: Form submission from: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Public/After Publication)

Submitted on Wednesday, June 4, 2014 - 08:04

Agency: DEPARTMENT STATE HEALTH SERVICES DSHS

First Name: Susan

Last Name: Belko

Title: Dyslexia Therapist

Organization you are affiliated with: Scottish Rite San Antonio; Somerset ISD

City: Natalia

State: Texas

Your Comments About the Staff Report, Including Recommendations Supported or Opposed: I am opposed to the abolishment of licensure for dyslexia therapists and practitioners. I earned my bachelor's degree in education with a specialization in reading and my master's degree in curriculum and instruction with a Master Reading Teacher certification. Although this education prepared me for my role as a reading interventionist, it was the very specialized and intensive training from Scottish Rite that prepared me for my role as a dyslexia therapist. Dyslexia is a very specific disability that can be managed with therapy. However, by requiring licensure, those that do not have the specialized skills needed would not be able to be a therapist. I am constantly receiving students that have had intensive intervention from computer programs and reading specialists that are still unable to read. These same students are able to read well enough to make it through school after receiving my specialized therapy. If your plan is to abolish licencing for dyslexia therapists, you might as well abolish certification for speech pathologists and diagnosticians too.

Any Alternative or New Recommendations on This Agency: My recommendation for this agency is to keep the licencing requirement for dyslexia therapists and practitioners.

My Comment Will Be Made Public: I agree