

**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 5:27:43 PM

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

From: sundrupal@capitol.local [<mailto:sundrupal@capitol.local>]  
Sent: Thursday, June 05, 2014 3:26 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 - 15:26

Agency: DEPARTMENT STATE HEALTH SERVICES DSHS

First Name: Sabrina

Last Name: Eads

Title: LPC

Organization you are affiliated with: myself

City: Houston

State: Texas

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

I oppose the recommendation 3.2 which transfers the Texas State Board of Examiners to the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation, and reconstitutes this independent board as an advisory committee. Recommendation 3.2 puts the public at risk, because it will impact the level of oversight on LPCs. Licensed professionals and public members are part of the current Board of Examiners, and they ensure that all LPCs are highly trained and follow ethical standards in order to keep this profession above reproach. For the sake of the clients LPCs serve, as well as the professionals who want to keep standards high among our peers within the profession, the oversight of an independent regulator board is necessary.

Further more, LPCs, Marriage and Family Therapists, and Social Workers all must hold advanced degrees and are considered Health Professionals under Texas Law. None of the occupations licensed by the TDLR are required to hold a bachelor's degree. This indicates to me that a higher board, separate from TDLR, would better serve the public as well as the licensees, as an independent board that is concerned solely with this profession is both more aware of the requirements and whether an individual meets those requirements, as well as the board contains those who have already gained the required degrees and can be gatekeepers for those improper for the profession, again protecting the public from negative experiences with health professionals as much as possible.

Any Alternative or New Recommendations on This Agency: I recommend that this particular set of professions be left with the current regulatory board.

My Comment Will Be Made Public: I agree