

Dawn Roberson

From: Sunset Advisory Commission
Sent: Thursday, June 05, 2014 5:32 PM
To: Dawn Roberson
Subject: FW: Form submission from: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Public/After Publication)

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

From: sundrupal@capitol.local [<mailto:sundrupal@capitol.local>]
Sent: Thursday, June 05, 2014 5:31 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 - 17:30

Agency: DEPARTMENT AGING AND DISABILITY SERVICES DADS

First Name: Mary

Last Name: Fitzgerald

Title:

Organization you are affiliated with:

City: Spring

State: Texas

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

I am opposed to eliminating SSLCs as a residential option for individuals with IDD. I am the sister and legal guardian of an individual who has lived in a community-based group home and now lives in an SSLC. My personal experience has shown that the community-based provider simply cannot provide adequately for all the medical, behavioral, educational, vocational and recreational needs of those with the greatest level of need. I am also fearful of the lack adequate state supervision and regulation of community-based providers; the group home where my family member lived had chronic shortages of staff and critical items related to resident safety and welfare consistently "fell through the cracks."

Finally, it appears that the Sunset Commission's cost data is faulty.

Private ICF costs don't reflect medical services provided and paid by Medicaid. This needs to be re-examined to ascertain the true costs involved in the two options.

Any Alternative or New Recommendations on This Agency: Re-examine cost data as noted above. Consider maintaining SSLCs as one of many residential alternatives for severely disabled individuals. Populations in the SSLCs are shrinking in large part because this residential option is not actively offered to families with disabled loved ones.

My Comment Will Be Made Public: I agree