

**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:** Tuesday, June 10, 2014 2:03:15 PM

---

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

From: sundrupal@capitol.local [<mailto:sundrupal@capitol.local>]  
Sent: Tuesday, June 10, 2014 10:55 AM  
To: Sunset Advisory Commission  
Subject: Form submission from: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Public/After Publication)

Submitted on Tuesday, June 10, 2014 - 10:54

Agency: DEPARTMENT STATE HEALTH SERVICES DSHS

First Name: Jeremy

Last Name: Anderson

Title:

Organization you are affiliated with:

City: Rosharon

State: Texas

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

Recommendation 3.2 places the public at risk. The regulatory oversight provided by the Texas State Board of Examiners of Marriage and Family Therapists which includes licensed marriage and family therapists as well as public members ensures that all LMFTs are well trained and adhere to high professional standards. The impact of LMFTs on the health and safety of the clients they serve mandates the oversight of an independent regulatory board that includes experienced licensed professionals.

Unlike the other professions recommended for transfer to the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation in Recommendation 3.2, Licensed Marriage and Family Therapists, Professional Counselors, and Social Workers must hold advanced graduate degrees and are considered Health Professions under Texas law. None of the occupations currently licensed by TDLR are required to hold even a bachelor's degree.

It is not only reckless regarding the general public's safety to place such professional Mental Health Providers in such category, it is disrespectful to those that have dedicated and worked so hard and given so much to provide care and services to the citizens.

It will likely also result in the reduced amount of providers in the State.

I for one would likely move from this State, to one that recognizes the worth of my field. The Worth of the Graduate degree I obtained, the 500+ hours of direct client contact I obtained while in Graduate school. The 3000+ hours I obtained, 1500 direct, over 750 of which were with Families and Couples, working on relations, so I could obtain the License in this state. Since getting that License, I have obtained approximate 200 CEU hours in the past 7 years, and provided nearly 10,000 hours of service to the community in roughly seven years.

Higher standards than anything in the TDLR, and frankly higher standards than even an LPC.

Any Alternative or New Recommendations on This Agency: Respect the profession.

My Comment Will Be Made Public: I agree