

From: [Sunset Advisory Commission](#)
To: [Janet Wood](#)
Subject: FW: Form submission from: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Public/After Publication)
Date: Wednesday, June 25, 2014 8:06:18 AM

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

From: sundrupal@capitol.local [<mailto:sundrupal@capitol.local>]
Sent: Tuesday, June 24, 2014 4:46 PM
To: Sunset Advisory Commission
Subject: Form submission from: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Public/After Publication)

Submitted on Tuesday, June 24, 2014 - 16:46

Agency: DEPARTMENT STATE HEALTH SERVICES DSHS

First Name: Melody

Last Name: Barnum

Title: Student Midwife/midwifery consumer

Organization you are affiliated with:

City: Midland

State: Texas

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

The Texas Midwifery Board is not due for Sunset Review until 2016-2017 and therefore no changes should be made and should instead be tabled at this time.

Additionally, the midwifery board should remain under DSHS as it has been and has functioned safely and well for many years.

Any Alternative or New Recommendations on This Agency:

The Midwifery Board is functioning well and licensed midwives should continue to hold the majority of the positions on the board as that is how physicians boards and midwifery boards across the nation and within Texas function and have proven over many years that this is a valid method.

Currently Licensed Midwives in Texas take an extensive and comprehensive licensing exam that covers the scope of practice that Licensed Midwives function under. ACOG and TCOG are requesting that instead "lay midwives" should take the AMCB exam. This is offensive first of all because Licensed Midwives are not "lay" at all. Also, the current exam used is specific to the scope of practice that Licensed Midwives practice under and the AMCB exam is not.

Please protect the practice of Licensed Midwives as it is currently! I myself had a wonderful home birth with a Licensed Midwife last year and hope to have many more in the future. As both a consumer and student midwife nearing licensure soon I know that Midwives are trained to know when pregnancy is going normally and is low risk and when it is not and gladly transfer care when it is no longer safe. Please preserve this safe option for women and their families.

My Comment Will Be Made Public: I agree