

**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, May 29, 2014 8:01:32 AM

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

From: sundrupal@capitol.local [<mailto:sundrupal@capitol.local>]  
Sent: Wednesday, May 28, 2014 8:43 PM  
To: Sunset Advisory Commission  
Subject: Form submission from: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Public/After Publication)

Submitted on Wednesday, May 28, 2014 - 20:42

Agency: DEPARTMENT STATE HEALTH SERVICES DSHS

First Name: Theresa

Last Name: Buzek

Title: LPC-S

Organization you are affiliated with: Private Practice

City: Austin

State: Texas

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

I am a bit concerned about the moving of mental health licensed professionals (LPCs, LCSWs, LMFTs, etc.) to an advisory board that has only an "all public" membership as noted in Section Three.

While it states that they would "develop a formal relationship with the relevant trade and industry associations and accrediting bodies" it may not be in the public's best interest to have lay persons deciding the best criteria needed to for registering, certifying, licensing, and taking enforcement action against practitioners, including their rulemaking authority, transferred to TDLR regarding oversight of needed services when only having a limited knowledge of what is involved to deliver care to some of our state's most vulnerable population.

Mental health is already an area of services that is woefully underserved (especially in rural areas) and to have possible additional barriers, or worse -- less qualified persons, deliver services in an effort to increase coverage will not be in the best interest of those who are not able to speak or advocate for themselves.

Any Alternative or New Recommendations on This Agency: Leave licensed professional mental health providers under Health and Human services where oversight can continue in conjunction with other service delivery.

My Comment Will Be Made Public: I agree