

From: [Sunset Advisory Commission](#)
To: [Janet Wood](#)
Subject: FW: Form submission from: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Public/After Publication)
Date: Sunday, June 08, 2014 6:35:46 PM

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

From: sundrupal@capitol.local [<mailto:sundrupal@capitol.local>]
Sent: Friday, June 06, 2014 6:22 PM
To: Sunset Advisory Commission
Subject: Form submission from: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Public/After Publication)

Submitted on Friday, June 6, 2014 - 18:22

Agency: DEPARTMENT STATE HEALTH SERVICES DSHS

First Name: Sally

Last Name: Cain

Title: Certified Academic Language Therapists

Organization you are affiliated with: ALTA

City: Dallas

State: Texas

Your Comments About the Staff Report, Including Recommendations Supported or Opposed: The recommendation to abolish licensure for Certified Academic Language Therapists is untimely and just bad public policy! Texas has the largest number of CALTS in the country-1350 out of which 1050 have sought licensure. The profession is growing exponentially every year with school district leaders hiring CALT's as quickly as they can find them. Some North Texas districts are hiring them for every elementary campus some of which include iLewisville, Mckinney, Frisco Wylie and Keller. These educational leaders recognize the role of academic language therapy as a necessary component in student academic success. It is untimely to take away the professional licensure requirement and function at the HHS because school districts and parents who hire for private therapy need to be assured that the CALT has the necessary professional qualifications. Academic Language Therapy is a critical component of a quality educational program because it provides a tool to help students succeed on tests and meet a rigorous curriculum. Do not remove this function when it can be anticipated that the State will need to triple the number of CALTS in the next five years to meet the needs of the diverse population of students. Academic language therapy helps all students who fall behind in the acquisition of language and reading. We would be pleased to share the specifics of this multisensory approach to help the dyslexic and the learning different student or adult!
Please reconsider this recommendation because it provides an important standard at minimum cost to the State!
Thank you!

Any Alternative or New Recommendations on This Agency:

Leave the licensure role for Academic Language Therapist to remain at HHS. To remove it, effectively abolishes the opportunity to protect the public and educators who hire CALTs.

My Comment Will Be Made Public: I agree