

From: [Sunset Advisory Commission](#)
To: [Janet Wood](#)
Subject: FW: Form submission from: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Public/After Publication)
Date: Monday, June 23, 2014 8:05:22 AM

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

From: sundrupal@capitol.local [<mailto:sundrupal@capitol.local>]
Sent: Friday, June 20, 2014 10:36 PM
To: Sunset Advisory Commission
Subject: Form submission from: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Public/After Publication)

Submitted on Friday, June 20, 2014 - 22:35

Agency: DEPARTMENT STATE HEALTH SERVICES DSHS

First Name: Jonathan

Last Name: Cogburn

Title: Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist

Organization you are affiliated with: Self Employed

City: Abilene

State: Texas

Your Comments About the Staff Report, Including Recommendations Supported or Opposed: As a psychotherapist licensed by the Texas State Board of Examiners of Marriage and Family Therapists, I staunchly oppose recommendation 3.2. Recommendation 3.2 would undo decades of work to establish a credible and self-regulating field of marriage and family therapy in the State of Texas. Without a functioning and independent board to issue licenses and manage ethical complaints and concerns, we have no functional profession or livelihood, and Texas would go without much needed mental health services personnel, which is already strained.

Any Alternative or New Recommendations on This Agency: Maintain a functioning independent board for licensure of LMFT's, LPC's, and LMSW's.

My Comment Will Be Made Public: I agree

From: [Sunset Advisory Commission](#)
To: [Janet Wood](#)
Subject: FW: Form submission from: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Public/After Publication)
Date: Monday, June 30, 2014 8:10:33 AM

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

From: sundrupal@capitol.local [<mailto:sundrupal@capitol.local>]
Sent: Friday, June 27, 2014 11:08 PM
To: Sunset Advisory Commission
Subject: Form submission from: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Public/After Publication)

Submitted on Friday, June 27, 2014 - 23:07

Agency: DEPARTMENT STATE HEALTH SERVICES DSHS

First Name: Jonathan

Last Name: Cogburn

Title: Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist

Organization you are affiliated with: Self-employed

City: Abilene

State: Texas

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

Please do not move the Texas State Board of Examiners of Marriage and Family Therapists (tsbemft) underneath the TDLR. We are masters level psychotherapists serving families and individuals in Texas. We are the only professionals in our field trained specifically to provide evidenced based treatment interventions to families in our state. Our profession is recognized and similar boards of examination exist in all fifty states. It is necessary to have an independently functioning regulatory board with a vested interest in maintaining the credibility of our field.

Speaking plainly, if you move our board, I will likely lose the ability to provide income to my family (which would impoverish my family as I am the sole source of income). Without the credibility afforded me by the licensing board, I may not be able to be reimbursed by insurance companies for services provided. The MFT field in Texas is one of the strongest in the country, and carries that reputation among other states. Please do not weaken it! Please do not remove my ability to provide income to my family!

Any Alternative or New Recommendations on This Agency: Please preserve the carefully built integrity of the marriage and family therapy files in Texas by maintaining TSBEMFT in its current form. Those needing mental healthcare in a family setting will be served by this decision. MFT's in Texas will be able to provide for their families, and will continue to carry a shining reputation of Texas to others in our field. We are proud to be professionals in our field in Texas, but we need your support to continue that tradition.

My Comment Will Be Made Public: I agree