

From: [Sunset Advisory Commission](#)
To: [Brittany Roberson](#); [Janet Wood](#)
Subject: FW: Form submission from: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Public/After Publication)
Date: Thursday, June 05, 2014 12:44:36 PM

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

From: sundrupal@capitol.local [<mailto:sundrupal@capitol.local>]
Sent: Thursday, June 05, 2014 12:23 PM
To: Sunset Advisory Commission
Subject: Form submission from: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Public/After Publication)

Submitted on Thursday, June 5, 2014 - 12:22

Agency: DEPARTMENT STATE HEALTH SERVICES DSHS

First Name: Stacy

Last Name: Elliott

Title: Senior Counselor

Organization you are affiliated with: Texas Tech University

City: Lubbock

State: Texas

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

- The training, internships and licensure for counselors and social workers is highly demanding and specialized. Our society is in desperate need of these qualified, regulated individuals. Please do not water down this process or the oversight of these professionals!
- Recommendation 3.2 places the public at risk. The regulatory oversight provided by the Texas State Board of Examiners of Professional Counselors which includes licensed professional counselors as well as public members ensures that all LPCs are well trained and adhere to high professional standards. The impact of LPCs 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 Professional Counselors, Marriage and Family Therapists 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.

Any Alternative or New Recommendations on This Agency:
Do not sunset this regulation!

My Comment Will Be Made Public: I agree