

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 09, 2014 7:48:18 AM

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

From: sundrupal@capitol.local [<mailto:sundrupal@capitol.local>]
Sent: Sunday, June 08, 2014 9:26 AM
To: Sunset Advisory Commission
Subject: Form submission from: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Public/After Publication)

Submitted on Sunday, June 8, 2014 - 09:26

Agency: DEPARTMENT STATE HEALTH SERVICES DSHS

First Name: Betsy

Last Name: Fredrickson

Title: Licensed Clinical Social worker

Organization you are affiliated with: Wheatfield Therapy

City: AUSTIN

State: Texas

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

I am very concerned about moving the Social Work Licensing under TDRL, which licenses a completely different population of workers i.e. Plumbers and HVAC technicians. In the mental health field, we work with a population of people who can easily be taken advantaged of and need an agency that is trained to evaluate if the public is at risk by the very people licensed to protect them. We need a Board made up of social workers, who are in the field and know the different levels of licensure and what the scope of practice is for each level. As it is now, from the time of a complaint, it takes approximately a year and a half before the complaint is heard. We also need a board made up of stakeholders, consumers and members of the profession, in order to be effective in monitoring and regulating the mental health workers in this state.

Social workers should not have to pay for any administrative decision to move the program with surcharges to their licensing fees. This is punitive and grossly inappropriate as the profession has not advocated for this change.

Any Alternative or New Recommendations on This Agency: The current Executive Director of the Board is not a social worker, but is supervised by a licensed social worker. NASW Texas strongly advocates for professional, licensed social work managerial level staff at the licensing board, regardless of the regulatory agency that provides oversight. Structurally, the staff of the licensing board must report ultimately to the Executive Director to ensure that there is consistency and proper oversight of its functions.

My Comment Will Be Made Public: I agree