

**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 16, 2014 8:06:10 AM

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

From: sundrupal@capitol.local [<mailto:sundrupal@capitol.local>]  
Sent: Sunday, June 15, 2014 9:07 PM  
To: Sunset Advisory Commission  
Subject: Form submission from: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Public/After Publication)

Submitted on Sunday, June 15, 2014 - 21:06

Agency: DEPARTMENT STATE HEALTH SERVICES DSHS

First Name: Kathryn

Last Name: Kelly

Title: CALT, TLDT

Organization you are affiliated with: Self Employed

City: Houston

State: Texas

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

I strongly disagree with the proposal to abolish the licensure of Dyslexia Therapists. Please allow me to explain.

I am the parent of a dyslexic daughter. When her reading struggles were discovered in 2nd grade (2007), her public school did not offer remedial services and there were few trained therapists in the area. As a result, I completed the Neuhaus Dyslexia Specialist Preparation Program (DSPP), successfully passed the ALTA exam and obtained my Texas Dyslexia Therapist License.

As a parent and licensed therapist, I have been disappointed and dismayed at others who pass themselves off as Dyslexia Therapists when they have received little or no training. I also had the opportunity to observe a "Dyslexia Reading Specialist" in our local elementary school. It was shocking to me to observe her lack of training and understanding. She pronounced many letter sounds incorrectly. I believe that she lacked the training to effectively offer remediation to her students.

Dyslexia remediation is an intensive, long and arduous process, often taking 2-3 years. Dyslexic students deserve and need well trained, qualified therapists in order to succeed.

Without licensure, parents and care givers seeking help for their dyslexic children, family and friends have no way of knowing if the therapist they have employed is qualified and can offer appropriate scientifically-based remediation. As it often takes a student 2-3 years to complete remediation, cost is another factor that must be considered. Parents may unwittingly spend hundreds of dollars with an unqualified therapist.

Thank you for considering my opinion and experience.

Any Alternative or New Recommendations on This Agency: Do not abolish the Dyslexia Therapist Licensure

My Comment Will Be Made Public: I agree