

From: [Sunset Advisory Commission](#)
To: [Janet Wood](#)
Subject: FW: Form submission from: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Public/After Publication)
Date: Friday, June 27, 2014 4:47:03 PM

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

From: sundrupal@capitol.local [<mailto:sundrupal@capitol.local>]
Sent: Friday, June 27, 2014 2:42 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 - 14:41

Agency: DEPARTMENT STATE HEALTH SERVICES DSHS

First Name: Maria

Last Name: LaVorgna-smith

Title: Ph.D., LMFT-S, LPC-S, ATR-BC, ATCS

Organization you are affiliated with: Texas Association of Marriage and Family Therapists

City: Plano

State: Texas

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

I say no to moving LMFT's from DSHS. I am in favor of keeping our license with DSHS due to the fact that I am a Health Care provider, I do not want my license to be taxed to pay for the move, I am a Licensed Marriage & Family Therapist and I do not want it to be diminished due to a move to a department that works with occupational licenses.

We are Health Providers as stipulated by the Federal Government and the Texas Medical Liabilities Act and should stay with the department that works with other health care entities; unlike other licenses being moved and under TDLR, our license requires a master's degree, education and experience to match; TDLR has no history in working with mental health issues; to pay for the move, TDLR recommends that LMFTs would have to pay for it by an increase in LMFT license fees, a burden for many in the profession; if LMFTs are not with other Health Care providers, insurance may decide to not reimburse LMFTs because LMFTs are now no longer under the health department for the State of Texas.

Any Alternative or New Recommendations on This Agency: We ask that we remain where we are and given due process for our education, degrees and experience.

I kindly submit this petition and request that it be fulfilled. Thank you

My Comment Will Be Made Public: I agree