

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 4:49:59 PM

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

From: sundrupal@capitol.local [<mailto:sundrupal@capitol.local>]
Sent: Monday, June 30, 2014 11:05 AM
To: Sunset Advisory Commission
Subject: Form submission from: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Public/After Publication)

Submitted on Monday, June 30, 2014 - 11:05

Agency: DEPARTMENT STATE HEALTH SERVICES DSHS

First Name: Jessamine

Last Name: Lopez

Title: Mrs.

Organization you are affiliated with:

City: Austin

State: Texas

Your Comments About the Staff Report, Including Recommendations Supported or Opposed: I oppose the scrutiny of the Texas Midwifery Board and believe that any changes to the makeup of the Midwifery Board of its law and rules should be tabled until the review due in 2016-2017. The TMB should not be moved to the Dept. of Licensing and Regulation. The DSHS is best equipped to regulate health care professions, and the Midwifery Board must be able to regulate its own practice standards. My personal experience with my midwife leads me to believe that midwives are devoted to continually improving the safety of their clients and must maintain the authority to do so.

Any Alternative or New Recommendations on This Agency: I disagree strongly with the comments from ACOG and TCOG stating that "lay midwives" should have to comply with ACME standards and take the AMCB exam for certification.

Licensed Midwives are not "lay midwives" and have standardized education in addition to the requirement to pass the NARM exam. These standards would put over 200 midwives out of business and not only harm Texas's economy, but reduce access to maternity care for thousands of Texans as well. Texas women deserve the option of midwives to be their health care provider. In my personal experience, after my first birth I was so disappointed with the standard doctor/hospital care I received, I didn't even want another child until I discovered my midwife. The care I received from my midwife for my second pregnancy and childbirth was so much more holistic and personal than with my first child, and overall a much more positive experience. It would be a travesty to deny women such similar experiences if these unnecessary changes are made to the Texas Midwifery Board.

My Comment Will Be Made Public: I agree