

From: [Sunset Advisory Commission](#)
To: [Janet Wood](#); [Brittany Roberson](#)
Subject: FW: Form submission from: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Public/After Publication)
Date: Thursday, May 29, 2014 11:55:24 AM

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

From: sundrupal@capitol.local [<mailto:sundrupal@capitol.local>]
Sent: Thursday, May 29, 2014 11:27 AM
To: Sunset Advisory Commission
Subject: Form submission from: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Public/After Publication)

Submitted on Thursday, May 29, 2014 - 11:27

Agency: DEPARTMENT STATE HEALTH SERVICES DSHS

First Name: Jennifer

Last Name: Madere

Title: Licensed Professional Counselor Supervisor

Organization you are affiliated with: private practitioner / LPC board licensee

City: Cedar Park

State: Texas

Your Comments About the Staff Report, Including Recommendations Supported or Opposed: As a Licensed Professional Counselor and Texas resident it concerns me that my license could come under an Advisory board that may not include any members of my professional field. One of the major purposes of the current LPC and other mental health boards is to publish and enforce rules intended to guard the integrity of my profession and the safety of the public. This possibility of an advisory board would increase risk to the public by allowing persons uninformed and inexperienced with rendering psychotherapy make decisions about how clients are to be treated, and how mental health professionals are to conduct themselves. A balance similar to the current LPC Board staff which comprises both mental health professionals and those from other related and unrelated fields better serves both the public and professionals it governs.

Any Alternative or New Recommendations on This Agency: I have heard an alternative of joining the mental health boards into one body. If this keeps the integrity of existing professional licenses, does not lead to greater confusion of the public (as to what licenses can do what practices), and the board includes representatives from each license (LPC, LMFT, LCSW, etc), then I can imagine the previously mentioned risk to the public being diminished. However, knowing how swamped the LPC board staff appears to be (judging by meetings I have attended and my attempts to contact them), adequate personnel would need to remain in place, or be added, to serve the growing Texas community.

My Comment Will Be Made Public: I agree