

**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:** Friday, June 06, 2014 4:41:54 PM

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

From: sundrupal@capitol.local [<mailto:sundrupal@capitol.local>]  
Sent: Friday, June 06, 2014 4:38 PM  
To: Sunset Advisory Commission  
Subject: Form submission from: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Public/After Publication)

Submitted on Friday, June 6, 2014 - 16:37

Agency: DEPARTMENT STATE HEALTH SERVICES DSHS

First Name: Chris

Last Name: Mathis

Title: Licensed Professional Counselor

Organization you are affiliated with: AbAMFT

City: Abilene

State: Texas

Your Comments About the Staff Report, Including Recommendations Supported or Opposed: I am strongly opposed to recommendation 3.2 because it places the public at risk. The regulatory oversight provided by the Texas State Board of Examiners of Professional Counselors which includes licensed professional counselors as well as public members ensures that all LPCs are well trained and adhere to high professional standards. The impact of LPCs on the health and safety of the clients they serve mandates the oversight of an independent regulatory board that includes experienced licensed professionals. Unlike the other professions recommended for transfer to the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation in Recommendation 3.2, Licensed Professional Counselors, Marriage and Family Therapists and Social Workers must hold advanced graduate degrees and are considered Health Professions under Texas law. None of the occupations currently licensed by TDLR are required to hold even a bachelor's degree.

Any Alternative or New Recommendations on This Agency: Licensed Professional Counselors should remain under their current governing board.

My Comment Will Be Made Public: I agree

**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 8:45:36 AM

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

From: sundrupal@capitol.local [<mailto:sundrupal@capitol.local>]  
Sent: Monday, June 30, 2014 8:04 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 - 08:04

Agency: DEPARTMENT STATE HEALTH SERVICES DSHS

First Name: Chris

Last Name: Mathis

Title: Licensed Professional Counselor

Organization you are affiliated with: AbAMFT

City: Abilene

State: Texas

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

I am strongly AGAINST moving LPCs and LMFTs from DSHS. I am in favor of keeping our license with DSHS because I am a Health Care provider. I do not want my license to be taxed to pay for the move. I am a Licensed Professional Counselor, and I do not want my license to be diminished due to a move to a department that works with occupational licenses.

1. 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.
2. Unlike the other licenses being moved, our license is a Master's Level Degree, unlike cosmetologists, sanitation workers and most of the other entities being moved.
3. TDLR has no history in working with mental health issues.
4. To pay for the move, TDLR recommends that WE would have to pay for it by an increase in our license fees. A tax on us.
5. If we are not with other Health Care providers, will insurance companies decide to no longer reimburse us because we are now not under the health department for the State of Texas?

Any Alternative or New Recommendations on This Agency: LPC and LMFT licenses should be kept with DSHS because we are health care providers.

My Comment Will Be Made Public: I agree