

**From:** [Sunset Advisory Commission](#)  
**To:** [Janet Wood](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Form submission from: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Public/After Publication)  
**Date:** Tuesday, June 24, 2014 3:59:49 PM

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

From: sundrupal@capitol.local [<mailto:sundrupal@capitol.local>]  
Sent: Tuesday, June 24, 2014 9:29 AM  
To: Sunset Advisory Commission  
Subject: Form submission from: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Public/After Publication)

Submitted on Tuesday, June 24, 2014 - 09:28

Agency: DEPARTMENT STATE HEALTH SERVICES DSHS

First Name: Domingo

Last Name: Molina

Title: TDSHS Offender Education Programs

Organization you are affiliated with: TDSHS

City: San Antonio

State: Texas

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

The Texas Coalition of Concerned Alcohol-Drug Interventionists (TCCADI) in direct response to with the proposed actions of the Texas Sunset Advisory Commission Staff Report of May 2014. In this report the recommendation is made to “discontinue Offender Education” programs. Recent headlines in Texas indicate a continuing concern for the humanitarian crisis currently on our border. Yet somehow the impact of Federal policy on releasing immigrants with DWI, alcohol or drug issues having a direct impact on all of our communities within our state has been missed. Further reports indicate that some of the youths in the current crisis are gang members. Gang members are part of the drug culture. Established conclusion is that potential for alcohol - drug abuse and addiction will soon be on the rise in our State.

According to the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) Brief Description - There are a variety of sources of information NIDA uses to monitor the prevalence and trends regarding drug abuse in the United States. The resources below cover a variety of drug related issues, including information on drug usage, emergency room data, prevention and treatment programs, and other research findings. Costs of Substance Abuse:

Abuse of tobacco, alcohol, and illicit drugs is costly to our Nation, exacting over \$600 billion annually in costs related to crime, lost work productivity and healthcare.

	Health Care	Overall
Tobacco	\$96 billion	\$193 billion
Alcohol	\$30 billion	\$235 billion
Illicit Drugs	\$11 billion	\$193 billion

Currently there are 2,475 licensed TDSHS Offender administrators and instructors. The volunteer Texas Coalition of Concerned Alcohol – Drug Interventionists (TCCADI) is quite concerned about this report for a variety of reasons.

The TDSHS Offender Education programs have show a demonstrative impact upon some 3,720,094 people during a five year period (2008-2012).

TCCADI like all Texans, are quite concerned about the response to the growing issue of alcohol – drug abuse and addiction in our State. Our efforts not only educate the offender population but are designed inspire and invite positive change. Our credo is to tell me I will forget, teach me I will learn, involve me I will understand. Our mission is simple, to involve those who have made poor choices and involve them into a sense of fulfillment inviting their family, friends, and significant others into this change.

Any Alternative or New Recommendations on This Agency: Perhaps it would be a good idea to monitor, investigate complaints, and have enforcement actions?

Was it TDSHS Agency policy not to conduct these actions?

My Comment Will Be Made Public: I agree