

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 23, 2014 3:27:27 PM

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

From: sundrupal@capitol.local [<mailto:sundrupal@capitol.local>]
Sent: Monday, June 23, 2014 3:20 PM
To: Sunset Advisory Commission
Subject: Form submission from: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Public/After Publication)

Submitted on Monday, June 23, 2014 - 15:19

Agency: DEPARTMENT STATE HEALTH SERVICES DSHS

First Name: Gary

Last Name: Moorman

Title: CEO

Organization you are affiliated with: 3rd Millennium Classrooms

City: San Antonio

State: Texas

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

We're contacting you in regards to your upcoming Sunset Advisory Commission meeting about potentially removing the Department of State Health Services as the certifying authority for Offender Education Providers. We would like to express our full support in the removal of DSHS as a certifying authority.

3rd Millennium Classrooms provides online alcohol and marijuana education courses to over 1,300 courts and 400 colleges in the U.S. including 220 Texas courts and 43 Texas colleges. In 2013, over 150,000 teens and young adults completed a 3rd Millennium alcohol prevention or intervention program. Our main office is located in San Antonio and we have 11 Texas employees.

3rd Millennium Classrooms developed the first online alcohol education course in the nation in 2001. At the time courts widely used group alcohol classes as an educational sanction for alcohol violations. For many people it's difficult to to share personal experiences with alcohol and/or other drugs with peers you've met for the first time. In fact a number of research studies suggest aggregating young drinkers in a group may have a detrimental effect on participants. The most notable interactions occur before and after group or during breaks.

(Further Reading - Vaughn, M., and Howard, M. (2004). Adolescent substance abuse treatment: A synthesis of controlled evaluations. *Research on Social Work Practice*, 14(5):325-355)

Since 2002, we have been in partnership with the eCHECKUP TO GO team at The San Diego State University Research Foundation to develop evidence-based programs that change behavior. Thirteen controlled studies have been conducted on the eCHECKUP intervention component that's integrated into all 3rd Millennium alcohol programs. These studies have shown that the eCHECKUP and 3rd Millennium programs reduce high-risk drinking

behavior. To our knowledge, there have been no studies that support the efficacy in reducing high-risk drinking for the DSHS alcohol education for minors curriculum.

Many Texas court clients choose to refer individuals to our 3rd Millennium Under the Influence alcohol course or Marijuana 101 course because these are quality programs. Several of our court customers have received threatening letters from DSHS because of these referrals. This type of intimidation never works in the long run and we believe it's right and just that DSHS be removed as a certifying authority and any sort of regulatory authority regarding curriculum requirements. The last time we reviewed the TCADA/DSHS alcohol education curriculum for underage drinkers it was 20 years out of date.

Thank you for this forum and the work you're doing on behalf of The Sunset Advisory Commission.

Any Alternative or New Recommendations on This Agency: We would like to express our full support in the removal of DSHS as a certifying authority for Offender Education providers and the statewide offender curriculum.

My Comment Will Be Made Public: I agree

From: [Sunset Advisory Commission](#)
To: [Janet Wood](#)
Subject: FW: Upcoming Sunset Advisory Commission Hearing
Date: Monday, June 23, 2014 4:46:42 PM

From: Gary Moorman
Sent: Monday, June 23, 2014 4:28 PM
To: Sunset Advisory Commission
Subject: Upcoming Sunset Advisory Commission Hearing

We're contacting you in regards to your upcoming Sunset Advisory Commission meeting about potentially removing the Department of State Health Services as the certifying authority for Offender Education Providers. We would like to express our full support in the removal of DSHS as a certifying authority.

3rd Millennium Classrooms provides online alcohol and marijuana education courses to over 1,300 courts and 400 colleges in the U.S. including 220 Texas courts and 43 Texas colleges. In 2013, over 150,000 teens and young adults completed a 3rd Millennium alcohol prevention or intervention program. Our main office is located in San Antonio and we have 11 Texas employees.

3rd Millennium Classrooms developed the first online alcohol education course in the nation in 2001. At the time courts widely used group alcohol classes as an educational sanction for alcohol violations. For many people it's difficult to share personal experiences with alcohol and/or other drugs with peers you've met for the first time. In fact a number of research studies suggest aggregating young drinkers in a group may have a detrimental effect on participants. The most notable interactions occur before and after group or during breaks.

(Further Reading - Vaughn, M., and Howard, M. (2004). Adolescent substance abuse treatment: A synthesis of controlled evaluations. Research on Social Work Practice, 14(5):325-355)

Since 2002, we have been in partnership with the eCHECKUP TO GO team at The San Diego State University Research Foundation to develop evidence-based programs that change behavior. Thirteen controlled studies have been conducted on the eCHECKUP intervention component that's integrated into all 3rd Millennium alcohol programs. These studies have shown that the eCHECKUP and 3rd Millennium programs reduce high-risk drinking behavior. To our knowledge, there have been no studies that support the efficacy in reducing high-risk drinking for the DSHS alcohol education for minors curriculum.

Many Texas court clients choose to refer individuals to our 3rd Millennium Under the Influence alcohol course or Marijuana 101 course because these are quality programs. Several of our court customers have received threatening letters from DSHS because of these referrals. This type of intimidation never works in the long run and we believe it's right and just that DSHS be removed as a certifying authority and any sort of regulatory authority regarding curriculum requirements. The last time we reviewed the TCADA/DSHS alcohol education curriculum for underage drinkers it was 20 years out of date.

Thank you for this forum and the work you're doing on behalf of The Sunset Advisory Commission.

Gary Moorman, CEO
3rd Millennium Classrooms

888-810-7990 Main

