

**From:** [Sunset Advisory Commission](#)  
**To:** [Janet Wood](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Form submission from: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Public/After Publication)  
**Date:** Thursday, June 19, 2014 1:34:24 PM

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

From: sundrupal@capitol.local [<mailto:sundrupal@capitol.local>]  
Sent: Thursday, June 19, 2014 9:07 AM  
To: Sunset Advisory Commission  
Subject: Form submission from: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Public/After Publication)

Submitted on Thursday, June 19, 2014 - 09:07

Agency: DEPARTMENT STATE HEALTH SERVICES DSHS

First Name: John

Last Name: Ockels

Title: Director

Organization you are affiliated with: Texas Illegal Dumping Resource Center

City: Sherman

State: Texas

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

I'm opposed to discontinuation of licensing requirements for code enforcement officers.

The committee is in error in its assertion that "deregulation would have little impact on public health or safety" (staff report, p. 46). Municipal code enforcement officers are, instead, the first line of defense most cities have to protect public health, especially since there are so few local full-service health departments in the state. Mandatory training and regulation of these officers is a key component of healthy communities.

Moreover, the committee's premise is false in asserting that a proper way to measure the value of a DSHS program is to be found in the number of complaints it regulates. Some programs, including the one regulating code enforcement officers, are actually generating few complaints because they are working.

Any Alternative or New Recommendations on This Agency: An alternative is to reject the committee's recommendation and leave things as they are. "Change for changes sake" is not a conservative principle.

My Comment Will Be Made Public: I agree