

**From:** [Sunset Advisory Commission](#)  
**To:** [Janet Wood](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Form submission from: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Public/After Publication)  
**Date:** Tuesday, July 01, 2014 7:41:19 AM

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

From: sundrupal@capitol.local [<mailto:sundrupal@capitol.local>]  
Sent: Monday, June 30, 2014 5:01 PM  
To: Sunset Advisory Commission  
Subject: Form submission from: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Public/After Publication)

Submitted on Monday, June 30, 2014 - 17:00

Agency: DEPARTMENT STATE HEALTH SERVICES DSHS

First Name: Penny

Last Name: Opperman

Title: Literacy Assistant

Organization you are affiliated with: Texas HOPE Literacy

City: Spring Branch

State: Texas

Your Comments About the Staff Report, Including Recommendations Supported or Opposed: As the wife and mother of dyslexic men, I can personally say that not requiring the licensing of Dyslexia Professionals would do them as well as all of the dyslexic people a serious injustice. I had the privilege of working with several incarcerated females who suffered from severe dyslexia. They had trouble even functioning in society because they had such traumatizing education experiences. When a dyslexic is told you are lazy or stupid because no one has bothered to really find out what is going on, it causes some very permanent effects. The program Texas HOPE Literacy was formed because of this very fact. I tutored some women who were constantly cussed out and told they were stupid, but when I sat down with them and began to work with them, it was very apparent that they had a definite learning disability. I was personally trained by a licensed Language Therapist and she helped me to teach this woman in a way that helped her to begin to read for the first time in her life. This would be a huge mistake.

Any Alternative or New Recommendations on This Agency: Implement Dyslexia training in all prisons.

My Comment Will Be Made Public: I agree