

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 3:55:42 PM

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

From: sundrupal@capitol.local [<mailto:sundrupal@capitol.local>]
Sent: Tuesday, June 24, 2014 11:21 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 - 11:20

Agency: DEPARTMENT STATE HEALTH SERVICES DSHS

First Name: Diane

Last Name: Perry

Title: Mrs.

Organization you are affiliated with: none

City: Brookshire

State: Texas

Your Comments About the Staff Report, Including Recommendations Supported or Opposed:
Texas Sunset Advisory Commission,

I have been recently notified of the potential changes for the Association of Texan (ATM) Midwives and Texans for Midwifery (TfM) regarding DSHS and TDLR. I am a happily married educated mother of 3 with successful home births with Texas licensed midwives. My husband is a Houston Fire Fighter/EMT. I disagree with the potential review of moving Texas Midwifery Board to be governed by the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation.

The DSHS has a relationship and health care understanding of the ATM and TfM which the TDLR does not. I urge you to reconsider keeping the ATM/TfM under council with the DSHS for the sake of thousands of participating families in favor of home births/natural births. It is our right to make health decisions for our families with education and knowledge and support from Association of Midwives. DSHS in alliance with ATM makes these educated decisions of families successful. Moving ATM under TDLR would be a poor decision based on understanding of health care and patient's right to a safe natural home birth.

The ACOG/TCOG has been moving toward changing laws and regulations for midwives and the requirements for licensed Texas Midwives. ACOG/TCOG has called ATM 'lay midwives' in an attempt to dull the credentials and education of licensed practicing midwives in Texas. The Texas Midwifery Board requires standardized education for Licensed Midwives. The NARM exam (350 questions) plus an eight-hour comprehensive midwifery exam. NARM is accredited by the National Commission for Certifying Agencies (NCCA) which is the same accredits ACME in which the ACOG/TCOG also comply to!

The push to move ATM to TDLR will allow ACOG/TCOG to mandate possible changes without transparency and the rights of Texas Midwives to speak out in ruling of such decisions on behalf of Texans choosing home birth. Moving ATM under TDLR would jeopardize the tax paying business of over 200 practicing midwives putting

Texas families in favor of safe and natural home birth at risk.

Thank you for the opportunity to express our families need to keep ATM under guidance of DSHS.

Any Alternative or New Recommendations on This Agency: Reconsider the moving of ATM to TDLR. Keep ATM under guidance of DSHS.

My Comment Will Be Made Public: I agree