

**From:** [Sunset Advisory Commission](#)  
**To:** [Janet Wood](#); [Brittany Roberson](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Form submission from: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Public/After Publication)  
**Date:** Friday, June 13, 2014 8:29:45 AM

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

From: sundrupal@capitol.local [<mailto:sundrupal@capitol.local>]  
Sent: Thursday, June 12, 2014 10:07 PM  
To: Sunset Advisory Commission  
Subject: Form submission from: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Public/After Publication)

Submitted on Thursday, June 12, 2014 - 22:06

Agency: DEPARTMENT STATE HEALTH SERVICES DSHS

First Name: Iristela

Last Name: Rodriguez

Title: Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist

Organization you are affiliated with:

City: Brownsville

State: Texas

Your Comments About the Staff Report, Including Recommendations Supported or Opposed: Recommendation 3.2 places the public at risk. The regulatory oversight provided by the Texas State Board of Examiners of Marriage and Family Therapists which includes licensed marriage and family therapists as well as public members ensures that all LMFTs are well trained and adhere to high professional standards. The impact of LMFTs on the health and safety of the clients they serve mandates the oversight of an independent regulatory board that includes experienced licensed professionals. Unlike the other professions recommended for transfer to the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation in Recommendation 3.2, Licensed Marriage and Family Therapists, Professional Counselors, and Social Workers must hold advanced graduate degrees and are considered Health Professions under Texas law. None of the occupations currently licensed by TDLR are required to hold even a bachelor's degree.

Any Alternative or New Recommendations on This Agency: Current system is working well and it should not be modified in any way.

My Comment Will Be Made Public: I agree