

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 06, 2014 11:59:05 AM

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

From: sundrupal@capitol.local [<mailto:sundrupal@capitol.local>]
Sent: Friday, June 06, 2014 9:19 AM
To: Sunset Advisory Commission
Subject: Form submission from: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Public/After Publication)

Submitted on Friday, June 6, 2014 - 09:18

Agency: DEPARTMENT STATE HEALTH SERVICES DSHS

First Name: Barbara

Last Name: Schnack

Title: Director, Family Court Services

Organization you are affiliated with: Harris County Domestic Relations Office

City: Houston

State: Texas

Your Comments About the Staff Report, Including Recommendations Supported or Opposed: I vigorously oppose placing all of the Boards which presently license providers and regulate the provision of mental health services under the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation. As with the medical profession, those of us providing social and mental health services are frequently working with children and those suffering from impairments and distress arising from mental health conditions. The populations we serve are vulnerable and worthy of the protection a licensing board composed of social services and mental health professionals provides. Licensed social workers such as myself, as well as the Licensed Professional Counselors and Licensed Marriage and Family Therapists should have our qualifications and work overseen by a board comprised of those with similar training, background and expertise in order to best protect the citizens of Texas who utilize the services we provide. Placing these boards under the umbrella of an agency which also oversees hair stylists, water well diggers, and dog breeders would do a disservice to those we serve.

Any Alternative or New Recommendations on This Agency: Consider placing the licensing and oversight provided for social workers, marriage and family therapists, and licensed professional counselors under a single licensing agency.

My Comment Will Be Made Public: I agree