

From: [Sunset Advisory Commission](#)
To: [Janet Wood](#)
Subject: FW: Form submission from: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Public/After Publication)
Date: Wednesday, June 25, 2014 4:32:19 PM

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

From: sundrupal@capitol.local [<mailto:sundrupal@capitol.local>]
Sent: Wednesday, June 25, 2014 4:07 PM
To: Sunset Advisory Commission
Subject: Form submission from: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Public/After Publication)

Submitted on Wednesday, June 25, 2014 - 16:07

Agency: DEPARTMENT STATE HEALTH SERVICES DSHS

First Name: Sandra

Last Name: Taylor

Title:

Organization you are affiliated with:

City: New Braunfels

State: Texas

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

Having had the opportunity to have hospital and home births, I appreciate the laws in Texas that allow a woman to choose where she has her baby. Midwives are an important part to keeping home birth safe for mother and baby. If they are placed under the doctor or nurse licensing divisions, their autonomy will be compromised. Please do not move them from the agency they are with now and allow them to continue to protect Texas mothers.

The Texas Midwifery Board is not due for Sunset Review until 2016-2017. Any changes to the make-up of the Midwifery Board or its law or rules should be tabled until that review.

The Texas Midwifery Board should not be moved to the Department of Licensing and Regulation. DSHS is best equipped to regulate health care professions.

The move will eliminate rule-making authority of the Midwifery Board, an ability crucial to continually improving safety and maintaining best practice standards.

In the past, the Sunset Review Commission has rejected the idea of moving the Texas Midwifery Board to the Medical Board or the Board of Nursing. These are not viable alternatives since Licensed Midwives are not doctors, nurses, or physician assistants. They are not medical professionals.

Any Alternative or New Recommendations on This Agency: Possibly creating their own agency, not controlled by doctors or nurses.

My Comment Will Be Made Public: I agree