

**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 7:54:39 AM

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

From: sundrupal@capitol.local [<mailto:sundrupal@capitol.local>]  
Sent: Monday, June 30, 2014 10:25 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 - 22:25

Agency: DEPARTMENT STATE HEALTH SERVICES DSHS

First Name: Priscilla

Last Name: Vasquez

Title: LPC

Organization you are affiliated with:

City: San Antonio

State: Texas

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

I am opposed to this possible change for LPCs and other mental health professionals. As an LPC, I believe that recommendation 3.2 places the public at risk. The regulatory oversight provided by the Texas State Board of Examiners of Professional Counselors ensures that all LPCs continue with their appropriate trainings and comply to the regulations/ code of ethics.

The TDLR Director states in his statement that, "key to TDLR's success in rehabilitating programs transferred to us is recruiting and retaining talented employees from those programs so they can continue working with the program using their valuable knowledge and established industry relationships. We have had great success in bringing over program experts and trained professionals within our Cosmetology, Barber, Property Tax Professional, and Towing programs." but he does not mention anything about any Mental health employees or success with the Mental health field. Mental health is extremely important in a person's life, we need to make sure our mental health professionals are practicing with the highest quality of training and complying to the regulations. I think a dept. who has no experience in the mental health field cannot be as effective in providing world class service and overseeing the mental health professionals. Mental health is a key component to modern health care which places licensed mental health professionals more closely aligned to the DSHS mission than that of TDLR.

Any Alternative or New Recommendations on This Agency: To keep LPCs and other mental health professionals under DSHS.

My Comment Will Be Made Public: I agree