

**From:** [Sunset Advisory Commission](#)  
**To:** [Janet Wood](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Form submission from: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Public/After Publication)  
**Date:** Monday, June 09, 2014 7:52:48 AM

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

From: sundrupal@capitol.local [<mailto:sundrupal@capitol.local>]  
Sent: Saturday, June 07, 2014 6:13 AM  
To: Sunset Advisory Commission  
Subject: Form submission from: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Public/After Publication)

Submitted on Saturday, June 7, 2014 - 06:12

Agency: DEPARTMENT STATE HEALTH SERVICES DSHS

First Name: Karen S.

Last Name: Walker

Title: Licensed Dyslexia Therapist (L.D.T.) #1281, Certified Academic Language Therapist (C.A.L.T.)

Organization you are affiliated with: private therapist; member of the Academic Language Therapy Association (A.L.T.A.) and International Dyslexia Association (IDA)

City: Amarillo

State: Texas

Your Comments About the Staff Report, Including Recommendations Supported or Opposed: Abolishing licensure for dyslexia therapists and practitioners would be a travesty to students with dyslexia. From a health standpoint, comorbidity between AD/HD and dyslexia is 30% of dyslexics and a link exists for stress anxiety in the dyslexic student population (I.D.A.'s "Just the Facts"). Progress in schools for intervention and earlier identification (IDA's "Just the Facts" states, "15% to 20% of the population is dyslexic.") is on the rise with some districts hiring therapists and PEIMS reporting of the dyslexic population required. Higher education is including dyslexia in teacher preparation courses. The loss of licensure would be a setback.

Any Alternative or New Recommendations on This Agency: An alternative to abolishing licensure for dyslexia therapists (200 hours in a multisensory, structured language program, 700 supervised practicum hours, several seminars and a final test vs. a week or slightly more training for school coordinators and Tier 3 interventionists) and practitioners would be to move the category to TDLR (Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation) as is proposed for speech - language pathologists and audiologists.

My Comment Will Be Made Public: I agree