

**From:** [Sunset Advisory Commission](#)  
**To:** [Brittany Roberson](#); [Janet Wood](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Form submission from: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Private/Before Publication)  
**Date:** Thursday, June 05, 2014 1:26:44 PM

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

From: sundrupal@capitol.local [<mailto:sundrupal@capitol.local>]

Sent: Thursday, June 05, 2014 1:12 PM

To: Sunset Advisory Commission

Subject: Form submission from: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Private/Before Publication)

Submitted on Thursday, June 5, 2014 - 13:11

Agency: HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMISSION HHSC

First Name: Sharon

Last Name: Ward

Title: Sharon Ward, MS, LPC, NCC

Organization you are affiliated with: Texas LPC, TCA

City: Aledo

State: Texas

Your Comments or Concerns: A review by peers is critical to our legal system.

A review by peers for LPC's by LPC's is also critical to maintaining the quality of licensed professionals in this field. Please do not go forth with this proposal.

Your Proposed Solution: Leave this alone. The current system is working.

My Comments Will Not Be Made Public: I agree

**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:** Thursday, June 05, 2014 5:32:05 PM

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

From: sundrupal@capitol.local [<mailto:sundrupal@capitol.local>]  
Sent: Thursday, June 05, 2014 2:21 PM  
To: Sunset Advisory Commission  
Subject: Form submission from: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Public/After Publication)

Submitted on Thursday, June 5, 2014 - 14:21

Agency: DEPARTMENT STATE HEALTH SERVICES DSHS

First Name: Sharon

Last Name: Ward

Title: LPC, NCC

Organization you are affiliated with: Private Practice/Texas Counseling Association

City: Aledo

State: Texas

Your Comments About the Staff Report, Including Recommendations Supported or Opposed: In order to maintain the integrity of the counseling profession, I believe it is important that a peer review process be maintained. Having licensing and disciplinary actions addressed by people outside the profession seems very problematic. As in legal matters, a review by peers is important.

When I call in with a question I want to be talking to someone that is very familiar with my particular license, not someone with general information about a lot of different licenses. In a disciplinary matter, I think it would be very hard for someone from another profession to really grasp the specific law, ethical codes and recommended practice for my profession. In some situations, a general knowledge just isn't sufficient. The years of training and experience that are required for an LPC cannot be boiled down to a few bullet points that would be understood by someone in another profession. Similarly, I would not want a podiatrist doing my brain surgery.

Yes, both are physicians, but with different areas of expertise, training and experience.

Any Alternative or New Recommendations on This Agency:  
The current system seems to be working. If it ain't broke.....

Thank you for your consideration.

My Comment Will Be Made Public: I agree