

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 30, 2014 4:31:32 PM

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

From: sundrupal@capitol.local [<mailto:sundrupal@capitol.local>]
Sent: Monday, June 30, 2014 4:05 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 - 16:04

Agency: DEPARTMENT STATE HEALTH SERVICES DSHS

First Name: Stephen

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Title: Director

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

The Staff Report is very comprehensive and thoughtful. Like DSHS, HDHHS agrees with the recommendations in the report. HDHHS is particularly interested in Issue 5.

As the director of a local health department and chair of the Public Health Funding and Policy Committee (Committee), I took specific notice of Issue 5 and I concur with the recommendations. Recommendation 5.1 regarding the development of a comprehensive inventory of the roles and responsibilities of DSHS central office, health service regions and the local health departments is crucial. The Committee has worked toward this goal since its inception in 2011. The formation of clearly defined roles of all the public health agencies in Texas is the first step to the implementation of public health capabilities. A statutory mandate will enable this undertaking and build the foundation for the accomplishment of Recommendation 5.2, the establishment of clear goals for the Texas public health system and the development of an action plan with regional strategies and milestones. Recommendation 5.3, categorizing the types of local health departments by the services they provide, is necessary to ensure that essential public health services are provided in every jurisdiction across the state.

I look forward to the Committee collaborating with DSHS to provide input in the preparation of the matrix of duties for each region, creating an action plan for the development and improvement of the public health delivery system and identifying changes in DSHS policies and procedures.

Any Alternative or New Recommendations on This Agency: None.

My Comment Will Be Made Public: I agree