

The Sunset Review of the Texas Department of State Health Services

The mission and performance of the Texas Department of State Health Services are under review by the Legislature as required under the Texas Sunset Act. The Act provides that the Sunset Commission, composed of legislators and public members, periodically evaluate a state agency to determine if the agency is still needed and to explore ways to ensure that the agency's funds are well spent. Based on the recommendations of the Sunset Commission, the Texas Legislature ultimately decides whether an agency continues to operate into the future.

The Sunset review involves three steps: First, Sunset Commission staff will evaluate the Department of State Health Services and issue a report in May 2014 recommending solutions to problems found. A month or so later, the Sunset Commission will meet to hear public testimony on the Department and the recommendations of the Sunset staff. Based on public input and the Sunset staff report, the Sunset Commission will adopt recommendations for the full Legislature to consider when it convenes in January 2015. Please refer to the Sunset Commission website or call the office for updated information on specific dates for these meetings.

Through the Sunset review, every Texan has the opportunity to suggest ways in which the mission and operations of the Department of State Health Services can be strengthened. If you would like to share your ideas about the Department, please send an e-mail to the address below, use the [comment form on the Sunset Commission website](#), or contact Katharine Teleki of the Sunset staff. Suggestions are preferred by **December 16, 2013**, so they can be fully considered by the Commission staff.

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Information about the Sunset process, Sunset Commission meetings, and how to receive Sunset Commission e-mail updates is available at: www.sunset.state.tx.us.