



Sunset Readiness: An Overview

**HHS Planning and Project Management Office:
Bill Campbell, Associate Commissioner- Project Sponsor;
Patsy Henry - Project Director**

DSHS Centers : Mary Soto, Rick Danko

Statutory Basis for Sunset Review

- In 1977, the Texas Legislature created the Sunset Advisory Commission to identify and eliminate waste, duplication, and inefficiency in government agencies.
 - Texas Sunset Act: Chapter 325, Government Code
- An agency's continued existence must be reauthorized after Sunset Review.
- HHS agencies must be reauthorized in 2009.
- <http://www.sunset.state.tx.us/guide.pdf>

Who is on the Commission?

- The Sunset Commission is Composed of 12 Members Including:
 - 5 members of the Senate appointed by the Lieutenant Governor;
 - 5 members of the House of Representatives appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives; and,
 - 2 members of the public, one each appointed by the Lieutenant Governor and the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

The Sunset Review Process

- Legislature sets dates for Sunset Review of state agencies.
- Agency submits Self-Evaluation Report (SER).
- Sunset staff evaluate agency and develop recommendations.
- Sunset Commission conducts a public hearing.
- Sunset Commission decides on recommendations.
- Legislative action based on the Sunset Review.

HHS Sunset Project Management

HHS Project Management

Project Sponsor: Bill Campbell; Project Director: Patsy Henry

HHS Sunset Readiness Core Team

HHSC project staff; HHS agencies' Deputy Commissioners; CPC directors and selected CPI directors

DSHS Team

Lead: Center for Program Coordination (Mary Soto) & Center for Policy/Innovation (Rick Danko)

Key Partners: CFO, COO, Divisions, General Counsel, CCEA, and Internal Audit

Final Approval Authority: Associate Commissioner

Goal: To ensure enterprise-wide readiness for the 2008-2009 Sunset Review through a timely and systematic process that will:

- Review the readiness of HHS agencies for Sunset Review in relation to operations, and information availability;
- Identify critical gaps in agencies' readiness; and
- Develop and implement action plans that address all readiness gaps.

Key Assumptions:

- Sunset SERs will be due mid-August 2007; and,
- Some operational readiness efforts will continue into FY 2008.

Conducting the Sunset Self-Evaluation

SER Component	Project Due Dates
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Key Functions and Performance • History and Major Events • Policymaking Structure • HHS Enterprise Key Policy Issues Identified 	<p>January 19</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agency Organization • Statutory Authority / Recent Legislation • Complaints • HUB and EEO Information 	<p>February 9</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Funding • Agency Comments • Audits and Oversight 	<p>March 2</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Guide to Agency Programs 	<p>March 16</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policy Issues Identified • Completed Draft to HHSC 	<p>April 6</p>

Probable Sunset Review Timelines

- June 15, 2007 – Draft Sunset Self-Evaluation Reports submitted to HHSC.
- Mid-July 2007 – Agencies receive public comments on Sunset Self-Evaluations.
- August 15, 2007 – Agencies submit Self-Evaluation Reports to Sunset Commission.
- September 2007 to December 2008 – Sunset staff evaluates agencies; Sunset Commission holds public hearings, finalizes recommendations and drafts related legislation.
- January 2009 – Sunset Commission issues its report to the 81st Legislature with recommendations on agencies subject to Sunset in 2009.
- January 2009 to May 2009 – Legislature considers Sunset Commission recommendations and related legislation.

- Comprehensive Tobacco Program Statewide Proposal
- Local Public Health Duties and Infrastructure
- Transparency and Congruency of Health Care Quality and Cost Data
- Health Information Technology
- Expansion of Rehabilitation Provider Base
- Provider of Last Resort

Stakeholder Input

- DSHS stakeholders will be able to provide comment in conjunction with the July DSHS Council meeting
- Sunset Commission staff include stakeholder processes as part of their agency review