

From: [Sunset Advisory Commission](#)
To: [Jalisa Broussard](#)
Subject: FW: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Private/Before Publication)
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From: sunset.website@brightleafgroup.com <sunset.website@brightleafgroup.com>
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Subject: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Private/Before Publication)

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Submitted by: Visitor

Submitted values are:

Choose the agency that you would like to provide input about
[Texas Workforce Commission](#)

Public Comments

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First Name

Barbara

Last Name

Grant Boneta

Title

Director

Organization you are affiliated with

Success by 6, United Way for Greater Austin

Email

barbara.grantboneta@uwatx.org

City

Austin

State

Texas

Your Comments or Concerns

Chair and Members of the Commission,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on the Sunset review of the Texas Workforce Commission. I serve as Director of the Austin/Travis County Success By 6 Coalition at the United Way for Greater Austin. Our coalition brings together more than 140 organizations in Central Texas working to improve outcomes for young children and families through coordinated policy, systems change, and community partnerships. I appreciate the Sunset Commission's focus on improving efficiency, accountability, and coordination across state government. Those same principles should guide decisions affecting Texas' early childhood system.

Child care is workforce infrastructure. Texas families need reliable child care to work, pursue education and training, and remain economically stable. At the same time, child care providers are predominantly small businesses operating in a highly regulated and increasingly complex environment. The effectiveness of the state's child care system depends not only on funding, but on how well the systems, providers, and families must work together.

From the perspective of providers and families, child care regulation, subsidy administration, quality improvement, and technical assistance are not separate systems. They are interconnected parts of the same child care experience. As the state considers potential structural changes, we encourage the Commission to preserve the integration of these functions within a coordinated state system, regardless of how responsibilities are ultimately organized.

Any reorganization should be evaluated through the experience of the people who use these systems. Providers should not have to navigate multiple agencies, conflicting guidance, or duplicative reporting requirements simply because related child care functions are housed in different places. Families should be able to access child care assistance through a system that is understandable, consistent, and responsive to their needs.

Our coalition recently conducted an Early Care and Education Landscape Survey with over 100 child care providers across Travis County. While local, the findings reflect challenges we hear consistently from providers. Twenty-six percent reported being understaffed, and workforce shortages were directly affecting operations: more than a quarter had closed classrooms, more than a third had reduced enrollment, and 40% had combined classrooms or groups. Providers were also operating at only 72% of their desired capacity, with approximately 2,562 open seats, while more than one-fifth were not confident in their financial stability over the next year. These findings demonstrate

how interconnected the challenges facing providers are—and why the state should prioritize clear communication, coordination, and streamlined systems rather than adding administrative complexity.

The Sunset process provides an opportunity to address these concerns while also examining whether the state's current structure best serves children, families, and providers. The question should not simply be where child care responsibilities sit, but whether the structure enables the state to deliver a coordinated, accessible, and effective child care system.

Regardless of the ultimate organizational structure, Texas should:

Reduce administrative burden by eliminating duplicative reporting, improving communication, and providing clear and consistent guidance to providers.

Modernize technology and data systems so families and providers can interact with the state through streamlined, user-centered systems.

Strengthen accountability by measuring outcomes for children, families, providers, and workforce participation—not simply the number of children served.

Preserve coordination among regulation, subsidy administration, quality improvement, and provider support so these functions operate as a connected system.

Strengthen coordination among TWC, TEA, and HHSC so families experience a more connected early childhood system rather than navigating agency boundaries.

I also encourage the Commission to coordinate its work with the Governor's Early Childhood Task Force. The Task Force is examining opportunities to improve coordination across Texas' early childhood systems. Any changes to the state's child care structure should be aligned with that broader effort to avoid creating new silos or duplicative reforms.

Texas has an opportunity through the Sunset process to make government work better for the people it serves. For child care, that means building a system that is coordinated rather than fragmented, accountable rather than burdensome, and modern enough to meet the needs of today's families and providers.

We encourage the Commission to use this moment to thoughtfully examine not only where child care responsibilities should sit, but what structure will best enable Texas to deliver an accessible, affordable, high-quality, and well-coordinated child care system for children, families, and providers.

Thank you for your thoughtful consideration and for your commitment to improving how Texas serves young children, working families, and the small businesses that are essential to our state's economy.

Your Proposed Solution

Proposed Solution Texas should use the Sunset process and the Governor's Early Childhood Task Force to develop a more coordinated, user-centered structure for child care. Rather than simply moving responsibilities from one agency to another, the state should establish clear accountability for the child care system as a whole and ensure that regulation, subsidy administration, quality improvement, provider support, and data systems operate as a coordinated system.

Any future structure should:

- * Reduce administrative burden and eliminate duplicative requirements for providers.
- * Create clear, consistent communication and guidance across state agencies.
- * Modernize technology and data systems around the needs of families and providers.
- * Strengthen coordination among TWC, HHSC, and TEA so families experience one connected early childhood system.
- * Establish measurable outcomes and accountability for child care access, affordability, quality, provider stability, and workforce participation.
- * Include meaningful input from families and child care providers in designing and evaluating the system.

The goal should be a child care system that is **coordinated, accessible, accountable, and responsive to the people it serves**, regardless of where individual responsibilities ultimately reside within state government.

My Comments Will Be Made Public

Yes