



TEXAS FUNERAL SERVICE COMMISSION

Janice McCoy, Executive Director

August 15, 2018

The Honorable Brian Birdwell, Chair
Sunset Advisory Commission
PO Box 13066
Austin, Texas 78711-3066

Re: TFSC Sunset Staff Report

Dear Chairman Birdwell:

Thank you for allowing me to provide public testimony regarding the Texas Funeral Service Commission. My name is Larry Allen and I have had the pleasure of serving on the Commission for three years as a public member. I have served as Assistant Presiding Officer for the past year.

I want to thank the Sunset Advisory Commission staff for recommending the Texas Funeral Service Commission be continued as a stand-alone agency. As a public member, I believe the agency serves an important purpose to ensure consumers are protected and death care providers are competent to practice.

However, I would like to comment on the recommendation regarding the make-up of the Commission. The Commission currently is comprised of four public members and three industry members. This structure works well. It provides enough public control of the industry but allows for industry knowledge and experience in our decision-making process.

My concern is if the Commission only has two industry members, we lose experience and institutional knowledge of the industry. When appointed, a public member mostly comes with no background or with limited background to understand some of the complex issues facing the Commission.

I would respectfully ask members of the Sunset Advisory Commission to retain the composition of the Commission at four public members and three industry members.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Larry M. Allen".

Larry Allen
Assistant Presiding Officer

Mailing Address:
P.O. Box 12217
Capitol Station
Austin, Texas 78711

Toll Free: (888) 667-4881
Tel: (512) 936-2474
Fax: (512) 479-5064
website: www.tfsc.state.tx.us

Physical Address:
333 Guadalupe Street
Suite 2-110
Austin, Texas 78701