From: <u>Elizabeth Jones</u>
To: <u>Janet Wood</u>

Subject: FW: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Public/After Publication)

Date: Monday, November 23, 2020 8:43:58 AM

From: sunset@sunset.texas.govOn Behalf OfTexas Sunset Commission

Sent: Sunday, November 22, 2020 8:26:28 PM (UTC-06:00) Central Time (US & Canada)

To: Sunset Advisory Commission

Subject: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Public/After Publication)

Agency: TEXAS HOLOCAUST AND GENOCIDE COMMISSION

First Name: Mihran

Last Name: Aroian

Title:

Organization you are affiliated with: Armenian Church of Austin

Email: mihran@aroian.com

City: Austin

State: Texas

Your Comments About the Staff Report, Including Recommendations Supported or Opposed: In 2018 and 2019, I worked diligently to get the Holocaust and Genocide commission to recognize the Armenian Genocide. The Genocide had already been recognized by the Texas House Resolution 191 yet the Commission had not recognized it. In January 2019, after several meetings, the Commission agreed to include the Armenian Genocide in their programs. To this day, there is not a single mention of the Armenian Genocide on their web site. It has been almost 2 years and still nothing even after contacting their office.

Any Alternative or New Recommendations on This Agency: My recommendation is to keep the agency but change out the entire team. Educating Texans about Genocide and Holocaust is important if we are to have any ability to stop Man's inhumanity to Man. IF you have read Viktor Frankl's book titled "Man's Search for Meaning" he has a famous quote "Since Auschwitz we know what man is capable of. And since Hiroshima we know what is at stake." The vision of the Commission is even more valid today but the ability for the Commission to actually have a meaningful impact is limited. I would like to see the Commission continue but it needs to be re-born. What exists today is simply a waste of time, energy and money.

My Comment Will Be Made Public: I agree