

**From:** [Sunset Advisory Commission](#)  
**To:** [Janet Wood](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Public/After Publication)  
**Date:** Monday, April 02, 2018 4:56:20 PM

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-----Original Message-----

From: sundrupal@capitol.local [<mailto:sundrupal@capitol.local>]  
Sent: Monday, April 02, 2018 4:28 PM  
To: Sunset Advisory Commission  
Subject: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Public/After Publication)

Agency: TEXAS STATE BOARD EXAMINERS PROFESSIONAL COUNSELORS

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Your Comments About the Staff Report, Including Recommendations Supported or Opposed:

I understand that our Texas State Board of Examiners struggles from time to time; though I personally have not had any delays or problems with communication. From what I understand, they are not budgeted properly and therefore are under-staffed. So my first suggestion would be to put more funding into the regulatory agencies already in place rather than create a larger and more costly layer of bureaucracy. Put funds planned for the BHEC expansion directly into the boards that are in existence so they can hire enough staff. Then allow them 2 years to show improvement before creating something else. I can say with assuredly, if your new plan is funded the say way as the four boards are currently funded, it will falter from time to time as well.

The real serious concern to me, however; is the thought of having a regulatory agency which is governed by a public majority. Each board is unique in that it understands the needs and concerns of the profession and the clients who they service. To develop an Executive Council to regulate the agencies with the final vote on the public side, in my opinion; would leave the final decision in the hands of those who may be great plumbers or bureaucrats but may not have an innate understanding of the needs of the various professionals or clients. Those needs are learned through experience in the profession. Just like have an electrician making final decision for the regulatory agency for Brain surgeons if frightening, so is this plan.

Any Alternative or New Recommendations on This Agency:

Petition for funding from the same source that is planning to fund the Behavioral Health Executive Committee. Even if that funding is divided between the four boards in question, it will likely be enough to allow the existing boards to do a more comprehensive job.

I understand that I don't know the details of the deficits, but if more funding will allow more staff to do quality work, then this whole thing feels very hypocritical. It feels the funding sources are saying, "We don't have funds for you to hire more staff" yet they are considering building a whole extra level of bureaucracy; which is very costly.

Hire quality staff who understand the professionals and the needs of the people they serve. I feel there are plenty of qualified people who would be willing to work to support the Texas Professional Counselor State Board, it's Professional members and it's target population; for appropriate pay. Without appropriate funding, nothing functions properly.

My Comment Will Be Made Public: I agree