

From: [Sunset Advisory Commission](#)
To: [Janet Wood](#)
Subject: FW: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Public/After Publication)
Date: Tuesday, May 10, 2016 12:19:33 PM

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

From: sundrupal@capitol.local [<mailto:sundrupal@capitol.local>]
Sent: Tuesday, May 10, 2016 12:08 PM
To: Sunset Advisory Commission
Subject: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Public/After Publication)

Agency: TEXAS BOARD PHYSICAL THERAPY EXAMINERS

First Name: Tamara

Last Name: Beeler

Title: Registered Kinesiotherapist

Organization you are affiliated with: Dept of Veterans' Affairs

Email: tamaras.beeler@va.gov

City: Lake Dallas

State: Texas

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

The Texas Physical Therapy Practice Act states that a "Physical therapist" is a person who is licensed by the board as a physical therapist and practices physical therapy. The term includes a hydrotherapist, physiotherapist, mechano-therapist, functional therapist, physical therapy practitioner, physical therapist specialist, physical therapy specialist, physiotherapy practitioner, kinesiotherapist, physical specialist, and myofunctional therapist.

Kinesiotherapists, formerly Corrective Therapists, have been a vital component of the Department of Veterans Affairs physical medicine and rehabilitation program for over 70 years, and are listed in the healthcare provider taxonomy (code #226300000X). Kinesiotherapists are the original exercise specialists, and have a long history of serving throughout the physical medicine and rehabilitation service of the Department of Veterans Affairs. Kinesiotherapy is the application of scientifically based exercise principles adapted to enhance the strength, endurance, and mobility of individuals with functional limitations of those requiring extended physical conditioning.

Any Alternative or New Recommendations on This Agency:

As a Registered Kinesiotherapist in the state of Texas, I would request that the term kinesiotherapist be removed from the definition of a Physical Therapist as part of the Sunset Review.

Kinesiotherapist is not a term equivalent to Physical Therapist. To include the term kinesiotherapist in the Physical Therapy Practice Act is misleading to the public. It also undermines the multi-disciplinary team approach prevalent in VA Rehabilitation Departments across the United States where kinesiotherapists have faithfully served our veteran population for over 70 years.

Removing the term "Kinesiotherapist equivalent to Physical Therapist" will afford this group of professionals the

opportunity to operate independently in the great state of Texas. Including Kinesiotherapists to the vast number of professionals will add another skill set and approach to rehabilitation to the population of Texas. As the overall population of Texas continues to grow so will the demand for an increase in the number of rehabilitation providers; Kinesiotherapists are a group of professionals that have been in existence since World War II, proudly providing exercise rehabilitation to our veterans, although not limited to one group, it is a privilege to serve the Nation's veteran population. We welcome the opportunity to serve outside the realm of Veteran Affairs here in Texas freely. Thank you for your consideration.

My Comment Will Be Made Public: I agree