From: Sunset Advisory Commission

To: <u>Janet Wood</u>

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

Date: Thursday, April 19, 2018 4:07:45 PM

----Original Message-----

From: sundrupal@capitol.local [mailto:sundrupal@capitol.local]

Sent: Thursday, April 19, 2018 3:56 PM To: Sunset Advisory Commission

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

Agency: TEXAS MILITARY DEPARTMENT

First Name: JOHN

Last Name: BELL

Title: CWO4

Organization you are affiliated with: TXSG

Email:

City: Teague

State: Texas

Your Comments About the Staff Report, Including Recommendations Supported or

Opposed: You did talk about the personnel that volunteer and spend their own money on transportation and other items. However, we also pay for our own uniforms, food, and lodging everytime we perform our drill weekend. It is not one day, I have been drilling once each month on Saturday and Sunday and I pay for my lodging, food, and gas. For our annual training, I will be training for seven days and not four which is outlined in your report. And, yes, retention is not good because we have no supplies, no way to get them, and we do this with no pay.

Any Alternative or New Recommendations on This Agency: The recommendation should be to provide funding for needed equipment and basic supplies and uniforms. Also, we as members of the TXSG that take time away from our families and daily lives to drill, train, and support the TXSG do not receive a dime for lodging, fuel, food, or basically anything unless we are ordered to active duty by the governor. The recommendation should be to find funding and start paying these "volunteers" for our monthly drill weekends and for everyday we are participating in our annual training. You will find that if TXSG personnel are paid, the retention will improve as well as recruiting.

My Comment Will Be Made Public: I agree