

From: [Sunset Advisory Commission](#)
To: [Cecelia Hartley](#)
Subject: FW: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Public/After Publication)
Date: Monday, November 28, 2016 4:19:40 PM

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

From: sundrupal@capitol.local [<mailto:sundrupal@capitol.local>]
Sent: Monday, November 28, 2016 4:13 PM
To: Sunset Advisory Commission
Subject: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Public/After Publication)

Agency: HEALTH LICENSING CONSOLIDATION PROJECT

First Name: Joel

Last Name: Blanco

Title: Doctor of Physical Therapy

Organization you are affiliated with:

Email:

City: Wichita Falls

State: Texas

Your Comments About the Staff Report, Including Recommendations Supported or Opposed: My name is Joel Blanco and I'm a doctor of physical therapy that works in the acute (hospital) and outpatient orthopedic setting in Wichita Falls, TX. I have been a practicing physical therapist in the state of Texas for 10 years. I am currently a manager of rehab services that oversees the physical, occupational and speech therapy disciplines at my organization. I am testifying to oppose the consolidation of the TBPTE into the TDLR and retain the TBPTE as an independent state agency for the next 12 years, as was recommended on multiple occasions by the Sunset staff. Having reviewed this report, it is very broad in its findings. Lumping together multiple health professions into the TDLR is not the appropriate response. Each individual health profession needs to be looked at on an individual basis. The financial figures in this report lump all the health professions together and not individually. On the "Key Problems Shared by Small Health Licensing Boards," it shows that PT and OTs have less check marks (4 total) than any other agency noted on this chart. I would also argue that the TBPTE does a great job of addressing complaints in a very timely manner. A minimum of two reports per year are sent to members on how members have been disciplined for filed complaints. These reports keep our members accountable and I would argue that these other health professions noted don't do this type of report for their members as consistently. And I would doubt that the TDLR would have the time or resources to provide this type of service, especially with the proposed health professions being lumped into the TDLR. I would expect complaint resolution may be slowed. It also seems that the projected costs for the TBPTE would be more than the expenditures currently by the TBPTE if it were to put under the TDLR. This doesn't make much sense to me? Overall, I'm asking that you please consider the TBPTE to be its own independent agency as it has since 1993. The TBPTE has been an integral part in helping to make licensing efficient and also helping police our profession in Texas quickly and effectively. Adding the TBPTE under the TDLR will only make for more work for the TDLR that I'm not sure they can fully accept or handle. Thank you for allowing me to make my opinion known.

Any Alternative or New Recommendations on This Agency:

1) Recommend that each individual profession be highlighted separately and not lumped in generally. Specifically in all the noted bullet points by this report (eg: costs, long complaint/resolution times)

2) oppose the consolidation of the TBPTE into the TDLR and retain the TBPTE as an independent state agency for the next 12 years, as was recommended on multiple occasions by the Sunset staff

My Comment Will Be Made Public: I agree