



September 15, 2020

To: Sunset Commission

Re: State Anatomical Board – Written Remarks

Dear Commission Members,

With respect, I am requesting your careful consideration of my reservations for the dissolution of the Texas State Anatomical Board (TXSAB). The TXSAB specifically provides key guidance and oversight for the appropriate use of human specimens in our State. Their unbiased support and careful stewardship of this vital resource has quantifiably saved, prolonged, and improved life in Texas and beyond—something I have personally witnessed for more than a decade as Department Chair. Without their oversight, an unregulated threat (*private for-profit corporations as one example*) will descend upon Texas with tomorrow's media cycle being the least of our concerns. With respect, the commission should additionally not consider over-taxed, under-funded medical school anatomy departments as potential surrogates for the TXSAB.

The in-depth education, research, and medical device development efforts (both civilian and DoD) that occurs at the Centre have placed practitioners in the field with confidence, defined the future of medicine, and changed the design of numerous medical devices. These accomplishments are a direct result of anatomical gifts, but of equal importance, careful guidance from the TXSAB.

In closing, my informed position is simple. Dissolution of the Anatomical Board potentially takes both hands off the wheel of a speeding car. My opposition to the dissolution stems from personal experience knowing one needs specific responsible oversight when life and death matters. I have further found my department's relationship with TXSAB to be an amazing collaboration of Science and Death.

With Respect,

D. Scotty Bolleter, BS, EMT-P
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