From: <u>Sunset Advisory Commission</u>

To: <u>Janet Wood</u>

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

Date: Tuesday, November 15, 2016 7:47:52 AM

----Original Message-----

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

Sent: Tuesday, November 15, 2016 5:32 AM

To: Sunset Advisory Commission

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

Agency: TEXAS STATE BOARD EXAMINERS PROFESSIONAL COUNSELORS

First Name: Sharon

Last Name: Boyd

Title: Licensed Professional Counselor

Organization you are affiliated with: Solo Practitioner

Email:

City: Bastrop

State: Texas

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

Please continue the autonomous regulation of Licensed Social Workers. I oppose the recommendation to relegate the Texas State Board of Social Worker Examiners to advisory status under the over-extended Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation (TDLR).

Oversight of mental health professionals is beyond the scope of TDLR. None of the occupations regulated by TDLR work with fragile individuals struggling to overcome devastating psycho, social, emotional and physical challenges. A move to TDLR will not resolve access to care or regulatory challenges.

I highly support the allocation of licensing fee revenue to directly support the regulatory functions of the Texas State Board of Social Worker Examiners.

Any Alternative or New Recommendations on This Agency: My recommendation is that you not deliver the regulation of Licensed Social Workers to the TDLR.

Mental health is a highly specialized agency and should be regulated by professionals specific to our field. Thank you.

My Comment Will Be Made Public: I agree