From: <u>Elizabeth Jones</u>
To: <u>Trisha Linebarger</u>

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

Date: Thursday, August 6, 2020 10:56:07 AM

From: sunset@sunset.texas.govOn Behalf OfTexas Sunset Commission

Sent: Thursday, August 6, 2020 10:48:10 AM (UTC-06:00) Central Time (US & Canada)

To: Sunset Advisory Commission

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

Agency: TEXAS DEPARTMENT LICENSING AND REGULATION

First Name: Katie

Last Name: Broaddus

Title: DVM, Chief Operations Officer

Organization you are affiliated with: Austin Humane Society

Email: kluke@austinhumanesociety.org

City: Austin

State: Texas

Your Comments About the Staff Report, Including Recommendations Supported or

Opposed: I respectfully request reconsideration of the removal of the Texas Licensed Breeders Program from the list of duties for the TDLR. This program was designed to ensure basic standards of care in large breeding facilities and, subsequently, preventing animal cruelty. The state relies on nonprofit, charitable organizations to remove and care for hundreds of animals each year that could be better protected if large scale breeding programs are licensed and regulated. As a shelter veterinarian, I have participated in many of these rescue cases and have seen the negative effects on the animals involved and people who work, live near, or purchase animals from poorly managed breeding facilities. It is an unfair burden to the pet owners and animal welfare organizations of Texas to allow unregulated breeding in this state.

Any Alternative or New Recommendations on This Agency: Please consider not only continuing the Texas Licensed Breeders Program, but also strengthening it. Please remove the requirement that only breeders selling twenty animals or more per year should be licensed. Most breeder pet sales are cash transactions that are not tracked, and determining whether an unlicensed breeder is truthful about sales is difficult for TDLR inspectors, at best.

Please consider lowering the breeding females requirement to five. These statutes must be clear and enforceable for the TDLR to do its job effectively and in the best interest of Texans, both human and furry. Thank you for your consideration.

My Comment Will Be Made Public: I agree