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

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

Date: Monday, August 10, 2020 11:18:14 AM

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

Sent: Saturday, August 8, 2020 5:43:31 PM (UTC-06:00) Central Time (US & Canada)

To: Sunset Advisory Commission

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

Agency: TEXAS ANIMAL HEALTH COMMISSION

First Name: Shelby

Last Name: Brogdon

Title: Director

Organization you are affiliated with: Humane Society of Young County

Email:

City: Graham

State: Texas

Your Comments About the Staff Report, Including Recommendations Supported or

Opposed: It is very important that we keep the licensed breeder program intact. While it isn't perfect, this is currently the only way to keep the state's puppy mills in check. Law enforcement needs to be able to step in before horrific cruelties have taken place in large-scale breeding operations. Most citizens support the regulation of these breeders.

Communities and tax-payers cannot afford to lose these regulations, as they are the ones to foot the bills when these places go unchecked and are busted for cruelty.

Any Alternative or New Recommendations on This Agency:

We need the Texas legislature to strengthen this legislation to better protect animals and families considering purchasing a puppy or kitten, not weaken or do away with it.

It is near impossible to determine how many animals a breeder sells since many transactions are cash and not reported. We need to remove the requirement that breeders selling 20 or more animals need licensing for that reason. The U.S. Department of Agriculture's requirement is that breeders having 5 or more adult animals be licensed. Our state regulation needs to mirror that, instead of the current requirement that says those with 11 or more adults be licensed. This will help to ensure all large-scale breeding facilities are being properly regulated.

My Comment Will Be Made Public: I agree