

Dear Sunset Advisory Commission,

As a doctoral-level licensed psychologist practicing in the State of Texas, I would like to provide a response regarding the practice of Psychology in Texas. I agree with the following items listed below:

- TSBEP should remain an independent board and agency;
- Maintaining the doctoral standard as the entry level to the profession of psychology;
- Establishing psychologists as the majority of members on the TSBEP board.

As a psychologist working in primary care and training future psychologists to work in primary care settings, it is important to provide patients with treatment by providers who are appropriately trained to manage their behavioral health needs. Doctoral-level training is vastly different when compared to master's level training and those distinctions need to be stated. The same is said for a nurse practitioner or physician assistant when compared to the level of training of a physician. These providers are not one in the same – their training is vastly different, and they should not be placed into the same category. **I am asking for the same consideration for the practice of Psychology to protect the public.**

TSBEP has been supporting doctoral-level psychologists in Texas so please allow this continued support by addressing the items listed above.

Thank you for taking the time to read this letter. If I can answer any questions, please contact me

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Katherine Buck', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Katherine Buck, PhD, LMFT