



Mike Cameron
Texas Distilled Spirits Association

December 13, 2018

Honorable Brian Birdwell
Chairman
Texas Sunset Advisory Commission
PO Box 13066
Austin, Texas 78711

Dear Chairman Birdwell and Members of the Committee,

On behalf of the Texas Distilled Spirits Association (TDSA), I want to thank you and the Sunset staff for your work in reviewing the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission (TABC). As the owner of a distillery and as President of TDSA, I commend your dedication and commitment to streamlining and modernizing the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Code.

TDSA agrees with the staff's report to continue TABC for an additional twelve years and supports the expansion of TABC's Commission from three to five members. TDSA also supports the recommendation to create advisory committees for stakeholder input and to address gaps in TABC's rules.

Additionally, TDSA supports Sunset staff's recommendation to streamline the state's licensing system by reducing the number of licenses and permits. Specifically of interest to TDSA is the elimination of the distiller agent's permit. TDSA members agree that the redundancy of an additional permit does nothing to protect the health and safety of the public. Texas distillers agree to bear responsibility for the actions of their employees when conducting tasks currently allowed under a distiller agent's permit.

TDSA has no formal opinion on the remaining Sunset recommendations at this time, however the organization does have a list of items that may fit within Sunset's mission of streamlining and modernizing both the Alcoholic Beverage Code and TABC's operations. I am adding these items as an addendum to this letter. We respectfully ask that these issues be considered during the upcoming legislative session.

Again, I thank you for your work on this report and I look forward to working together on any modifications going forward.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Mike Cameron". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Mike Cameron
Enclosure