

From: [Sunset Advisory Commission](#)
To: [Cecelia Hartley](#)
Subject: FW: Concerned Therapists in Texas
Date: Tuesday, November 29, 2016 4:26:06 PM

From: Canare, Francis R.
Sent: Tuesday, November 29, 2016 2:37 PM
To: Sunset Advisory Commission
Subject: Concerned Therapists in Texas
Importance: High

Dear Sunset Commission:

I just wanted to speak against the proposed consolidation of the TBPTE with the TDLR.

First of all the TBPTE is a very structured governing body that efficiently ensures that the best qualified individuals, whom are passionate to be health care providers for the customers in need, in the many settings such as: Inpatient (Acute) Care Hospitals, Long-Term Acute Care, Skilled-Nursing Facilities, Comprehensive Rehabilitation Facilities/Hospitals, Outpatient Settings, School Systems, and Home-Health Care; can ethically, effectively, and most of all safely provide for the needs of specific clientele under the spectrum of Physical Therapy and/or the Occupational Therapy.

Being a PTA (Physical Therapist Assistant) here in Houston, TX for the last 15 years, and also being credentialed clinical instructor in the Acute Care Hospital setting for PTA students, I am responsible for ensuring that the product we put out is capable, safe, and ethical for our customers. Different students from all walks of life, I groom to be successful in this field of practice. From the customers perspective, they rely on our expertise to be able to effectively and safely restore their abilities as best as possible, given their specific medical complexities. We are essential in co-existence with the Physicians, Nurses, Case Workers/Social Workers, and the customers families to ensure the customers are being placed in the best scenario/situation to continue/complete their respective recoveries from medically complex diagnoses (i.e. surgeries, strokes, traumatic injuries, debilitation, wound care management to name a few). The importance of having a sound medical background in the preparation of these candidates to practice in the State of Texas is essential! We do not want to have just anybody be a health care provider, and not be the best qualified to treat our medically complex patient populations for whom

entrust to for the customers chances for success in their
respective recoveries.

Here in Houston, we are well known for being one of the best medical institutions in the world; and we need to be our best to ensure we are all the best therapists we can be! In fact,

the PT and OT practices have moved to a Doctorate level of expertise to ensure the best for our patients. They spearhead the evidence-based research, current findings in practice that works best for us to carry out as a whole, so that we are the best providers we can be in our respective professions. Understandably, there are shortages in terms of the quantity of therapists that are qualified, or available to provide the care to patients. But on the other hand, I truly do not feel comfortable placing individuals that are not competent, nor safe, nor ethical in the therapy workforce just to accommodate for need of having enough bodies to care for medically complex individuals.

Thanks for your time, and for allowing me to speak on some of the concerns of the proposed

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