

From: [Sunset Advisory Commission](#)
To: [Janet Wood](#)
Subject: FW: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Public/After Publication)
Date: Wednesday, April 11, 2018 12:55:02 PM

-----Original Message-----

From: sundrupal@capitol.local [<mailto:sundrupal@capitol.local>]
Sent: Wednesday, April 11, 2018 12:39 PM
To: Sunset Advisory Commission
Subject: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Public/After Publication)

Agency: TEXAS STATE BOARD EXAMINERS PROFESSIONAL COUNSELORS

First Name: Lori T

Last Name: Candrian

Title: MS, LPC

Organization you are affiliated with: TCA, Bay Area NET

Email:

City: Alvin

State: Texas

Your Comments About the Staff Report, Including Recommendations Supported or Opposed: As a licensed professional counselor I am in support of the recommendation to create the Behavioral Health Executive Council to house all four behavioral health regulatory agencies and to expand the composition of BHEC to include professional representation from each board as voting members. The current system is buried at the Health and Human Services Commission which means it does not have a line item in the budget. It's extremely understaffed. And most importantly, its ineffectiveness makes it a challenge for LPCs and LPC-Interns to secure, renew or upgrade their licenses. Having to submit your renewal atleast 60 days in advance is not acceptable. Long hold times on the phone is not acceptable. Many LPC are in private practice and do not get paid enough from insurance companies to be able to afford support staff to handle calls to the board. They are busy seeing clients and returning calls to clients and do not have the time to wait on hold for long periods of time. The Board should support those with licenses making their jobs easier to perform not complicate it.

Any Alternative or New Recommendations on This Agency: I trust the Texas Counseling Association and their recommendations. More staff is needed to field calls and emails as well as process license requests and renewals.

My Comment Will Be Made Public: I agree