

**From:** [Sunset Advisory Commission](#)  
**To:** [Janet Wood](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Public/After Publication)  
**Date:** Friday, June 17, 2016 4:04:32 PM

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

From: sundrupal@capitol.local [<mailto:sundrupal@capitol.local>]  
Sent: Friday, June 17, 2016 3:43 PM  
To: Sunset Advisory Commission  
Subject: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Public/After Publication)

Agency: EXECUTIVE COUNCIL PHYSICAL THERAPY AND OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY EXAMINERS

First Name: Denise

Last Name: Cortes

Title: Doctor of Physical Therapy, Pediatric Certified Specialist

Organization you are affiliated with: na

Email:

City: Houston

State: Texas

Your Comments About the Staff Report, Including Recommendations Supported or Opposed:

I support the proposed change for the Texas Board of PT examiners to join the compact for national licensure. This compact would allow for therapists to move from state to state without facing challenges from separate boards. Since all accredited PT education programs must meet the same CAPTE standards, reciprocity of licensure between states would not impact public safety.

I do oppose the recommendation to stop the current continuing competence approval program. The current CCAP program aids in ensuring that the continuing education programs completed by physical therapists and physical therapists assistants meet standards for quality education in order to improve the knowledge and skills of PT's and PTA's. The current program is well managed by the TPTA with over a 100 experts providing input and review of continuing education courses. This process is efficient and without the TPTA's program, the TBPTE would need additional resources to staff and monitor the program.

Any Alternative or New Recommendations on This Agency: I also support repealing the referral requirement for physical therapy treatment. 47 other states allow physical therapy treatment without referral. In areas with direct access to physical therapy services, the public experiences a lower cost of care and patient safety is not compromised. Since 1973, physical therapists in the US military have practiced without referral which provides greater access to timely PT intervention which can prevent acute conditions from becoming chronic.

My Comment Will Be Made Public: I agree