From: <u>Sunset Advisory Commission</u>

To: <u>Janet Wood</u>

Subject: FW: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Public/After Publication)

**Date:** Wednesday, April 25, 2018 5:03:37 PM

----Original Message-----

From: sundrupal@capitol.local [mailto:sundrupal@capitol.local]

Sent: Wednesday, April 25, 2018 4:51 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: Debra

Last Name: Crown

Title: Licensed Professional Counselor Board Approved Supervisor, Licensed Chemical Dependency Counselor

Organization you are affiliated with: Self Employed

Email:

City: Plano

State: Texas

Your Comments About the Staff Report, Including Recommendations Supported or

Opposed: In general agree with staff report proposals. I think some parameters might be best grandfathered in such as number of hours required if you're already in mid-internship, or taking a drug test if you've already practiced for a great number of years. I disagree that there is a great shortage of therapists, at least in the DFW area. The opposite in fact. Too many people, too many more graduating every year, and too many employers reducing pay and increasing job tasks (employer's market here!) See comments below.

Any Alternative or New Recommendations on This Agency: I recommend that universities in Texas have standard informed consent prior to enrolling new students for professional counseling. Included in that informed consent would be demographics for how many LPC there are in a given area, typical pay rate, how many people are jobless, rate of atrophy or giving up license. People are paying a lot of money for degrees that have low pay, poor employment outcome, unrealistic workloads, typically LPC stay in a job for a year and the career for 7 or less years. I believe the universities are accepting anyone anytime for education that is expensive and ultimately not workable as a lifelong career for many people and many reasons. I heard one employer say that they had over 70 applications for one \$30K job. That may have been incorrect, I have no way of knowing, but it is sad to see so many people desperate to make their master's degree work for them.

My Comment Will Be Made Public: I agree