From: Sunset Advisory Commission

To: <u>Janet Wood</u>

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

Date: Tuesday, April 10, 2018 3:31:58 PM

----Original Message-----

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

Sent: Tuesday, April 10, 2018 3:02 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: Sharon

Last Name: Cunningham

Title: Licensed Professional Counselor

Organization you are affiliated with: Texas Counselors Association

Email:

City: Waco

State: Texas

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

I would like to recommend the creation of 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.

Due to the current staffing and structure, the way it is now is causing delays in getting renewed in a timely manner which affects licensure with the insurance agencies which, in turn, interrupts service to the clients. This affects the livelihood of the provider and the continuity needed for the client. It is also affecting new licensing. For example, my Intern applied for full licensure upon completion in September and was not licensed until February.

I know good effort is being made, but it is falling short of what is needed.

Any Alternative or New Recommendations on This Agency: Expand the composition of BHEC to include professional representation from each board as voting members.

My Comment Will Be Made Public: I agree