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August 13, 2020

Ms. Jennifer Jones
Executive Director
Sunset Advisory Commission
P.O. Box 13066
Austin, Texas 78711

RE: Sunset Review of Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear Ms. Jones:

Texas Farm Bureau (TFB) appreciates the opportunity to comment on the Sunset Advisory Commission's Staff Report of the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation (TDLR).

TFB is a grassroots organization of over 500,000 member families. Our policies are developed through a member-driven process that takes place each year at our annual meeting. It is this set of policies from which we develop any positions on legislation or, in this case, recommendations from the Sunset Commission. TFB has taken the following positions on the Sunset Commission recommendations:

Issue 2: Fifteen occupational licenses are not necessary to protect the public.

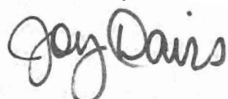
While TFB does not currently have direct policy on the issue, we are concerned with the elimination of licensing the Auctioneers Program. Currently, auctioneers must complete 80 hours of instruction on the business of auctioneering, go through a background check, pass an exam, and participate in continuing education for license renewal. TFB is afraid that dropping these requirements could have a negative effect on auctions and their participants.

TFB is opposed to eliminating licensing of the Weather Modification Program. Our policy states, "We oppose weather modification activities and research being conducted without full public understanding and recognition of possible effects to property in the area. We recommend that before any weather modification activities take place over any region, landowners of that region be given the right to vote on this issue." Without a licensing process, there will be no accounting of who or when any weather modification activities might take place and what their effects might be.

While TFB is currently neutral on all Sunset staff recommendations for the remaining six issues, we undergo policy development each Fall. Therefore, our members may adopt additional policy at our annual meeting in December that addresses an issue where we are currently neutral.

Thank you again for the opportunity to comment on these issues. We look forward to working with you in the future.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink that reads "Joy Davis". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Joy Davis
Associate Legislative Director