

**From:** [Sunset Advisory Commission](#)  
**To:** [Janet Wood](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Public/After Publication)  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 15, 2016 7:49:26 AM

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

From: sundrupal@capitol.local [<mailto:sundrupal@capitol.local>]  
Sent: Monday, November 14, 2016 8:38 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: Laura

Last Name: Dokupil

Title: Licensed Professional Counselor

Organization you are affiliated with: Texas Counseling Association

Email:

City: La Grange

State: Texas

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

I am opposing the recommendation to relegate the Texas State Board of Examiners of Professional Counselors and the other mental health professional licensing boards to advisory status under the over-extended Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation (TDLR).

Please understand that the Texas State Board of Examiners of Professional Counselors has for years worked specifically with the struggling mental health population. As an LPC I can tell you that working within this population takes a great deal of education and understanding because it is such a fragile population.

Management of this organization needs to be done by individuals that are specially trained to deal with this population and with the challenges that come along with it. Management of the Texas State Board of Examiners of Professional Counselors is completely out of the scope of the TDLR.

I am also recommending that you allocate licensing fee revenue to directly support the regulatory functions of the Texas State Board of Examiners of Professional Counselors. This will help to fiscally sustain the practices and important work that the board does.

Please help us extend and promote care to our underserved Texas population by keeping management in the hand of the individuals properly trained to do so and that can help to extend it all across our great state.

Any Alternative or New Recommendations on This Agency: Please continue the autonomous regulation of licensed professional counselors.

My Comment Will Be Made Public: I agree