

From: [Sunset Advisory Commission](#)
To: [Trisha Linebarger](#)
Subject: FW: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Public/After Publication)
Date: Monday, October 31, 2016 8:02:07 AM

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

From: sundrupal@capitol.local [<mailto:sundrupal@capitol.local>]
Sent: Saturday, October 29, 2016 11:52 AM
To: Sunset Advisory Commission
Subject: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Public/After Publication)

Agency: STATE BOARD VETERINARY MEDICAL EXAMINERS

First Name: Mary

Last Name: Egan, DVM, MPH, DACVPM

Title: Shelter Veterinarian

Organization you are affiliated with:

Email:

City: Niederwald

State: Texas

Your Comments About the Staff Report, Including Recommendations Supported or Opposed: I applaud the Sunset Review for its thorough report on the Texas Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners. The report outlines many concerns of veterinarians in Texas, and in particular, shelter veterinarians. This veterinary specialty is growing, so the spectrum of animals under the care of shelters ranges from small rural shelters, to large, multi-million dollar urban complexes. Animals in shelters have no owner to represent them, and are therefore much more at risk. To exempt all shelter veterinarians from the practice act is a gross misinterpretation of the ownership rule. That rule was originally intended for owners of livestock, to be allowed to castrate, vaccinate, and treat their own private herds. To be interpreted as licensed veterinarians employed by a shelter is an open door for the "no-kill" or "life at any cost" movement to put at further risk those animals most in danger of mistreatment. And it gives free rein to the very few unethical veterinarians who may believe this is a shortcut to sound medical practice. As a veterinarian, I willingly submit to regulation by the TBVME, and I expect the same from all my veterinary colleagues.

Any Alternative or New Recommendations on This Agency: Please add language to the practice act that make all veterinarians subject to their practice act regulation. The possible exception could be on personal animals that they themselves own, but not for all veterinarians employed by shelters.

My Comment Will Be Made Public: I agree