

From: [Sunset Advisory Commission](#)
To: [Trisha Linebarger](#)
Subject: FW: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Public/After Publication)
Date: Tuesday, November 13, 2018 8:05:20 AM

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

From: sunset@sunset.texas.gov <sunset@sunset.texas.gov> On Behalf Of Texas Sunset Commission
Sent: Monday, November 12, 2018 11:54 PM
To: Sunset Advisory Commission <Sunset@sunset.texas.gov>
Subject: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Public/After Publication)

Agency: TEXAS STATE BOARD PLUMBING EXAMINERS

First Name: James

Last Name: Fisher

Title: Master Plumber M38723

Organization you are affiliated with:

Email:

City: San Antonio

State: Texas

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

Is the TSBPE perfect? No. Do we need the TSBPE? Yes.

The TSBPE is like The Department of Public Safety. Except the average person does not realize the importance Plumbers and Pipe Fitters play keeping them safe every day. Why can you drink clean water every day without fear of catching some water born illness? Plumbers. If you've ever been in a hospital and needed an oxygen tube that came out of the wall, my brothers and sisters put that there.

If we close the doors the The Plumbing Examiners we have essentially taken the Troopers out of the field of public safety. Everyday you see stories of people getting hurt or property damage occurring because an unlicensed person attempted a skilled trade. What makes plumbing difficult is that it seems easy. You can watch a video or ask a "pro" at a big box store or even your neighbor.

The truth is a real plumber is highly trained and skilled in the process of protecting people by giving them clean water and disposing of contaminated water in a safe way. It looks easy but people with highly educated mechanical minds have developed standards that keep us all safe. The TSBPE makes sure we are professional and proficient in the plumbing vocation an implementation of these standards.

Without the TSBPE making me valuable I could not provide for my family.

Skilled plumbers are a commodity Licensed plumbing contractors can bill in excess of \$300.00 per hour for 1 plumber. Would you pay your neighbor \$300.00 an hour? Why not? Doesn't he know how to plumb? I can go anywhere in Texas and have a job within 3 days and pretty much get paid what I want. Why? The reason is simple I sat in Austin and TSBPE and took two different tests and passed them. I have two cards in my pocket 1 has a J followed by some numbers and the other has an M followed by some numbers. These cards that I receive every year prove I am worth my asking price because my skills have been tested? Then every year after that I receive additional

TSBPE mandated training.

A quick question...What percentage of grade is required on a 6" building drain pipe made from Poly Vinyl Chloride?
I know and The TSBPE knows I know that answer too.

Any Alternative or New Recommendations on This Agency: TSBPE faces staffing challenges and fiscal challenges. Texas has a lot of geography. One way to alleviate some of the back log to the testing process would be to allow local schools, colleges etc. to proctor some written portions of the tests. Much like when we took SATs or ACTs tests. This will allow plumbers to stay closer to home. Allows the TSBPE to Proctor two sets of shop tests a day and free the staff up to engage in training, shrink overtime and provide more applicants to test. This saves HR dollars, training wages, etc. It should also boost revenue because you have more registered individuals paying premiums to renew their coveted licenses.

My Comment Will Be Made Public: I agree