

From: [Sunset Advisory Commission](#)
To: [Cecelia Hartley](#)
Subject: FW: PT Sunset Commission
Date: Tuesday, November 29, 2016 8:02:19 AM

From: Kate Flagge
Sent: Monday, November 28, 2016 10:59 PM
To: Sunset Advisory Commission
Subject: PT Sunset Commission

Greetings:

I am a licensed physical therapist in the state of Texas with a master degree level education and 31 years of experience, numerous certifications, and a special interest and competence in the treatment of TMJ (Temporo-mandibular joint) including as and educator to the doctorate PT students at TWU about the evaluation and treatment of TMJ disorders. The knowledge we gain in the PT education and practice is unique to us, has been proven beneficial and evidence based, and is ruled professionally by our PT licensing board that is fully qualified and educated as to what we do. As a medical professional it is imperative that we have a licensing board that is composed of similar professionals. Our PT and OT board is just that. To place our professions into this "health professions" portion of TDLR and have advisory panels would have those that are not familiar with the intricacies of professions be advising us would be a grave mistake.

I am not sure where the idea of this came from, but I know other medical professions are actively pursuing limiting our practice for there own gain, despite the overwhelming evidence of our effectiveness, our ethics, and our safety record. This includes chiropractors who don't want us doing the targeted specific mobilizations and manipulations that we excel at, Acupuncturists who feel threatened by our ability to dry needle specific physiological structures to promote healing (not at all base on ancient Chinese meridians), and even the AMA who does not want us to practice without a referral (and collected patient co-pay) even though PT's are now graduating and practicing at the doctorate level.

I ask you, how can a commission that regulates well-diggers, tow truck operators, and the like have even the basic knowledge or understanding of what we do. We are DOCTOR level!

Thank you for listening to my concerns. I fear if this route is continued, not only will my profession will be diminished, but also the people who receive our care will suffer. This means you, your parents, your children, your spouses. Think carefully of the consequences please.

Kathleen Flagge, PT, CKTP, Cert DN