

**From:** [Sunset Advisory Commission](#)  
**To:** [Janet Wood](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Comment on report for sunset commission  
**Date:** Monday, April 09, 2018 4:01:00 PM

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**From:** Kit Garcia  
**Sent:** Monday, April 09, 2018 3:20 PM  
**To:** Sunset Advisory Commission  
**Subject:** Comment on report for sunset commission

To whom it may concern:

There are have been many new developments that deeply disturb me about the practice of acupuncture in Texas lately. I wanted to take time to share my concerns with you as someone who has been in the field of acupuncture for over 15 yrs.

1.) I am deeply suspicious about 'big chain acupuncture' coming to Texas such as "Modern Acupuncture". I feel this is a big step backwards for the profession. It will kill future growth and hurt current small-scale practitioners already in the field much like Wal-Mart obliterated small department stores back in the 90's. Also, I believe that a medical practice must be managed by people trained in the related medical field. A similar thing happened to the massage industry to the detriment of small scale RMTs.

2.) I would also like to see "dry needling" removed as a viable modality or increase the amount of education hours to the same as acupuncturists. "Dry Needling" IS acupuncture no matter how fancy the terms used to describe it. They even USE the same acupuncture needles. The people who practice this are trying to deceptively side step current rules and guidelines that are meant to protect consumers and acupuncturists who have invested many hours to learn this nuanced art.

3.) Please consider allowing the formation of an independent acupuncture board. The TX State Board of Acupuncture Examiners was started in 1993 under the watchful eye of the medical board. Since this time, acupuncture has been proven to be a safe and effective when done by licensed practitioners. That is 25 years of safe progress! Currently, Texas sees fit to allow the puncture of the human body for therapeutic value by people who don't have three years of schooling via "dry needling" and those people are controlled separately from the TX Medical Board. Why is this ok? This is an illogical loophole that must be closed.

It is time for Texas acupuncturists to direct our profession without oversight by the TX Medical Board by having our own board. This means:

a.) Remove the oversight of the TSBAE by the TX Medical Board (Sec.205.101 through 205.254).

B.) Remove the requirement that acupuncture patients be evaluated first by a physician or dentist or chiropractor (Sec. 205.301)

C.) Remove restriction to practice without a referral (Sec.205.302)

Thank you for your time!

"Kit" Maria Garcia

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Wellness begins today and is in your hands. Why not book your acupuncture appointment today at [Dragonfly Wellness Center](http://www.dragonflywellness.com)?  
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