

**From:** [Sunset Advisory Commission](#)  
**To:** [Janet Wood](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Public/After Publication)  
**Date:** Monday, April 30, 2018 7:56:53 AM

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

From: sundrupal@capitol.local [<mailto:sundrupal@capitol.local>]  
Sent: Monday, April 30, 2018 3:07 AM  
To: Sunset Advisory Commission  
Subject: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Public/After Publication)

Agency: TEXAS STATE BOARD EXAMINERS PROFESSIONAL COUNSELORS

First Name: Kathleen

Last Name: Gleason

Title: Licensed Professional Counselor, Licensed Supervisor, National Certified Counselor, Diplmat Clinical Forensic Counselor

Organization you are affiliated with: Texas Counseling Association (TCA)

Email:

City: Boerne

State: Texas

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

I am writing in regards to the Sunset Commission Staff Report as well as the public hearing on the Behavioral Health Licensing Boards which was held on Wednesday, April 25, 2018. Please take note of my Professional opinions and recommendations as cited below:

I. I believe that the creation of the Texas Behavioral Health Executive Council, BHEC, as voted unanimously by the last Sunset Commission Staff Report, can be a strong administrative agency that could assist with the review of each independent board's rules and could make recommendations if the rules pertaining to an independent board violates current statutes or create anti-competitive, monopolistic, or anti-trust scenarios. The BHEC would NOT make the rules.

II. I support and believe in the creation of the Texas Behavioral Health Executive Council, BHEC. I believe that each board member should be appointed to the BHEC by their licensing board, and definitely have voting privileges on the BHEC, in order to represent their professional board that includes the majority of member's opinion

III. I believe that under the Texas Behavioral Health Executive Council, each board will still be appointed by the Governor as currently set forth in the Occupations Code. Each board's rule-making authority will remain intact and licenses will be issued by each Board. Licenses should NOT be issued by the Texas Behavioral Health Executive Council.

IV. I believe that creating two separate administrative agencies for the four mental health licensing boards is NOT the most efficient use of taxpayer dollars. The state's interests are best served by forming ONE agency as recommended in the Sunset Commission Staff Report.

V. In addition, I believe that psychologists are NOT the only ones who hold a doctorate degree. That statement is false and inaccurate. Many other mental health providers, as well as my colleagues, hold a doctorate degree. In fact,

most of the psychologists that I know hold another license as well, such as Licensed Professional Counselor. Thus, this is another reason that the psychologists should not be a stand alone agency. Psychologists too, should be housed at BHEC.

VI. The Texas Behavioral Health Executive Council will not create one combined board for all mental health professionals. Each of the "four licensing boards" will retain their integrity and rule-making authority for each distinct discipline.

VII. Lastly, I believe that one agency, equipped to handle the administrative duties of all the mental health professional licensing boards, would be a more efficient use of the taxpayers dollars and would make it easy for the public to both find providers, as well as learn how to file complaints.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Kathleen Gleason

Licensed Professional Counselor-Supervisor National Certified Counselor Diplomat Clinical Forensic Counselor

Any Alternative or New Recommendations on This Agency: V. In addition, I believe that psychologists are NOT the only ones who hold a doctorate degree.

That statement is false and inaccurate. Many other mental health providers, as well as my colleagues, hold a doctorate degree. In fact, most of the psychologists that I know hold another license as well, such as Licensed Professional Counselor. Thus, this is another reason that the psychologists should not be a stand alone agency. Psychologists too, should be housed at BHEC.

My Comment Will Be Made Public: I agree