

**From:** [Elizabeth Jones](#)  
**To:** [Trisha Linebarger](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Public/After Publication)  
**Date:** Thursday, June 25, 2020 4:02:41 PM

---

From: sunset@sunset.texas.gov On Behalf Of Texas Sunset Commission  
Sent: Thursday, June 25, 2020 3:58:23 PM (UTC-06:00) Central Time (US & Canada)  
To: Sunset Advisory Commission  
Subject: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Public/After Publication)

Agency: TEXAS DEPARTMENT LICENSING AND REGULATION

First Name: Susan

Last Name: Gulig

Title: President

Organization you are affiliated with: Humane Society of North Texas

Email: [sgulig@hsnt.org](mailto:sgulig@hsnt.org)

City: Fort Worth

State: Texas

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

The Humane Society of North Texas (HSNT) works closely with law enforcement authorities throughout North and Central Texas to assist animals from cruelty, neglect and abuse. We have rescued hundreds of pets from breeders that kept animals in unhealthy living conditions and without proper medical treatment. HSNT strongly opposes the Texas Sunset Advisory Commission's recommendation to repeal the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation's (TDLR) Licensed Breeders Program. The Licensed Breeder Program helps ensure that breeders with animal cruelty convictions are prevented from obtaining licenses to breed and sell dogs and cats in Texas. Without the enforcement of TDLR's Licensed Breeders Program, more cruelty investigations would take place, further burdening law enforcement authorities and nonprofits, like HSNT.

If anything, the State of Texas needs to strengthen the provisions of the Licensed Breeders Program to save even more pets from animal cruelty at the hands dishonest breeders (see Recommendations section). Unfortunately, the pets mistreated by unscrupulous breeders do not have a voice in this debate.

It is incumbent on TDLR, law enforcement and nonprofits, like HSNT, to work tirelessly on behalf of all abused and neglected animals to ensure their safety.

Any Alternative or New Recommendations on This Agency: The Humane Society of North Texas (HSNT) recommends that the Licensed Breeders Program be strengthened by removing the requirement that only those breeders selling 20 or more puppies/kittens be licensed. Sales records can easily be manipulated; therefore, removing this requirement will help ensure more animals at breeding facilities are humanely treated through oversight by the TDLR. Furthermore, lowering the requirement on the number of breeding females from 11 to 5 will also protect more helpless animals. We must continue to provide safeguards for vulnerable animals.

My Comment Will Be Made Public: I agree