

**From:** [Sunset Advisory Commission](#)  
**To:** [Cecelia Hartley](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Consolidation of Texas Board of Physical Therapy Examiners  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 29, 2016 8:05:08 AM

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**From:** Autumn Hardin  
**Sent:** Monday, November 28, 2016 5:41 PM  
**To:** Sunset Advisory Commission  
**Subject:** Consolidation of Texas Board of Physical Therapy Examiners

To whom it may concern:

I am writing to you today as a concerned Doctor of Physical Therapy student. In the recent months we have been informed of the Sunset Commission's proposal to dissolve the Texas Board of Physical Therapy Examiners (TBPTE) and consolidate our licensing with the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation (TDLR). This proposal is causing great concern among practicing clinicians and current students.

I believe that the TDLR consolidation would be detrimental to the physical therapy practice. I believe that the professionalism and reputation of our practice would be greatly diminished if our licensing were to be given over to the TDLR. I have two undergraduate degrees and am currently in my first year of the Doctor of Physical Therapy program at Angelo State University. I believe that the amount of education that we are required to obtain to practice physical therapy in Texas warrants our license to be above that of truck drivers, nail salons, and the like.

If the consolidation of TBPTE to the TDLR were to pass, the integrity of our practice would be compromised. We would have individuals from very different professions and backgrounds being able to have a say in how physical therapists are allowed to practice in Texas. We have a wonderful field and I think it is best if the decisions regarding our practice are made by individuals who are familiar with the field and have a background in physical therapy.

As a student, I am so very excited to graduate and be able to finally practice in a profession that I love. I have a dream of settling in Texas, a state where I was born and raised, and starting my career in the place that I love. However, the TDLR proposal and its detrimental effects on the physical therapy practice casts a shadow on that dream. I really hope that you will consider my concerns and the concerns of the many physical therapists in Texas when making a decision regarding this proposed consolidation.

Sincerely,

Autumn Hardin, SPT  
Angelo State University, Class of 2019  
Lamar University, Class of 2015