From: Sunset Advisory Commission

To: <u>Janet Wood</u>

Subject: FW: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Public/After Publication)

Date: Tuesday, November 15, 2016 9:44:56 AM

----Original Message-----

From: sundrupal@capitol.local [mailto:sundrupal@capitol.local]

Sent: Tuesday, November 15, 2016 9:16 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: Ronda

Last Name: Hayes

Title:

Organization you are affiliated with: Texas Counseling Association

Email:

City: San Angelo

State: Texas

Your Comments About the Staff Report, Including Recommendations Supported or

Opposed: I most adamantly oppose the recommendation to relegate the Texas State Board of Examiners of Professional Counselors and the other mental health professional licensing boards to advisory status under the overextended Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation (TDLR). They are not qualified to address the needs and concerns of mental health providers.

Also, their workload is too heavy to address the needs adequately. Also, not having the knowledge of what these boards deal with could cause confusion within the mental health profession and the licensing of ill prepared practitioners or allowing irresponsible therapists to continue to practice.

Any Alternative or New Recommendations on This Agency: The Texas State Board of Examiners of Professional Counselors and the other mental health professional licensing boards needs to continue as the governing boards for mental health providers. Having to deal with the LPC board myself, I found staff knowledgeable about my profession and able to confidently provide support and services. I fear that another board would not have that benefit.

My Comment Will Be Made Public: I agree