From: <u>Sunset Advisory Commission</u>

To: <u>Trisha Linebarger</u>

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

**Date:** Thursday, August 13, 2020 2:54:11 PM

From: sunset@sunset.texas.gov [mailto:sunset@sunset.texas.gov] On Behalf Of Texas Sunset Commission

Sent: Wednesday, August 12, 2020 4:08 PM

To: Sunset Advisory Commission <Sunset@sunset.texas.gov>

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

Agency: TEXAS ANIMAL HEALTH COMMISSION

First Name: Marina

Last Name: Hench

Title:

Organization you are affiliated with:

Email:

City: Austin

State: Texas

Your Comments About the Staff Report, Including Recommendations Supported or

Opposed: I oppose the recommendation by Sunset staff to eliminate the Licensed Breeder Program at TDLR. The program's enabling legislation passed in 2011 was critical in establishing baseline requirements and practices for breeders that help prevent animal cruelty. Without the program, you would see a massive proliferation of unregulated "backyard breeders" that keep animals in inhumane conditions in order to profit from the repeated impregnating of female animals. Known as "puppy mills," unregulated breeding leads to unethical practices, unwanted animals, and a grotesque market built on animal cruelty. The State of Texas must ensure that breeders are operating in accordance with state laws and accountable to humane practices through the licensing process. Please maintain the Licensed Breeder Program at TDLR and do not allow the program to sunset.

Any Alternative or New Recommendations on This Agency: Maintain the Licensed Breeder Program

My Comment Will Be Made Public: I agree