

From: [Sunset Advisory Commission](#)
To: [Janet Wood](#)
Subject: FW: My testimony for the Sunset Commission regarding the Texas Medical Board
Date: Monday, December 05, 2016 8:12:05 AM

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From: Terry Horner
Sent: Saturday, December 03, 2016 1:45 AM
To: Sunset Advisory Commission
Subject: My testimony for the Sunset Commission regarding the Texas Medical Board

To the Sunset Commission,

I am a 61 year old native Texas and I have had Lyme disease for 52 years. I got Lyme disease at age 9 but it went undiagnosed until 2 years ago. I have chronic fevers, overwhelming fatigue, extreme joint and muscle pain, serious cognitive problems, severe memory problems, total extremity neuropathy, permanent vision problems, seizures, and 8 strokes along with numerous other medical problems due to Lyme disease. I was an excellent student before getting Lyme disease but almost flunked out of school after I got it. The cognitive and memory disfunction caused by Lyme caused my academic years to be extremely difficult for me. I developed the knack to convince my teacher to let me do independent projects instead of taking tests with the other students. It entailed much more work for me but it was the only way I could pass my classes. But the extreme fatigue, chronic intense pain, and flu like fevers forced me to be bed ridden much of the time and home bound most of the time. So I had to drop out of college twice even though I was only a part time student. I never could graduate college and feel very lucky that I was able to pass my elementary and high school years. I was never able to work much nor have a career. I've been to one Dr after another since I was in my 20ies and could no longer work, go to school, nor function normally to even the smallest degree. I've seen well over 100 Drs searching for help, an accurate diagnosis, and treatment that would make me better. I was misdiagnosed many times and had many treatments that did much more harm than good since they were based on misdiagnosis. So many Drs don't know much about Lyme disease and therefore can't diagnose it nor even recognize its symptoms. Even after I was diagnosed in Texas I have had Texas Drs tell me I must not have Lyme disease because there is no Lyme disease in Texas. Those Drs do not even accurately know the symptoms of Lyme disease nor what it entails. Lyme disease is definitely in Texas and many Texans have it. I have missed so much out of life because of having Lyme disease and have spent so many years bedridden feverish and in extreme pain. I was bounced from one Doctor to the next and through one treatment to the next for years all the while I just kept getting worse with no idea of what was wrong. I sincerely wish Doctors can be educated to recognize the signs, and symptoms of Lyme disease and taught to know the seriousness of it too. My first stroke gave me total right side paralysis, slurred speech, destroyed a large part of my memory, and deeply affected my cognitive abilities. It took years of therapy to overcome the devastating affects of that stroke. Then over the past 16 years 7 more strokes have hit me. Each one I have had to work hard to overcome. If Doctors could be educated about Lyme disease and taught what to look for then they can help get patients to Lyme specialists when needed. No one needs to suffer what I went through and they should be able to get help quickly before the serious damage even starts. Please educate our Doctors and teach them how serious Lyme disease is. Please help protect our fellow Texans and don't make them navigate a maze of Doctors to reach an accurate Lyme Disease diagnosis and the treatments they need to survive. Lyme Disease does kill and I've been lucky to have survived.

Sincerely,
Terry Horner