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

To: <u>Cecelia Hartley</u>

Subject: FW: Consolidation of TBPTE into the TDLR Date: Monday, November 28, 2016 5:23:56 PM

From: Ann Huffstetter

Sent: Monday, November 28, 2016 5:23 PM

To: Sunset Advisory Commission

Subject: Consolidation of TBPTE into the TDLR

To Whom It Concerns:

I am a physical therapist assistant who has practiced in Anderson County, Texas in the school system, rehab settings, hospital setting, and in home health for 23 years. I have been very active active in the APTA for 25 years, having served as district secretary and chair of the East Texas District.

I oppose the consolidation of the TBPTE into the TDLR.

I support retaining the TBPTE as an independent state agency for the next 12 years-as was recommended on multiple occasions by the Sunset staff.

Since health care is constantly changing, and needs have to be addressed as effectively and efficiently as possible, I am very concerned that the TDLR will not have the expertise to address the continuing educational needs of physical therapists. PTs are entering the profession with doctoral degrees; certainly a high level of education.

The TDLR will increase costs, deliver less, and reduce the standard of patient safety in Texas.

The recommendations show that the TBPTE has done very well in keeping expenses down, in handling complaints in a timely manner, and in providing the continuing competency education that is required to remain current in the physical therapy profession.

Thank you for your consideration. Ann Huffstetter, PTA