

From: [Sunset Advisory Commission](#)
To: [Janet Wood](#)
Subject: FW: BHEC hearings
Date: Thursday, April 26, 2018 10:58:18 AM

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From: hullsusan
Sent: Thursday, April 26, 2018 9:56 AM
To: Sunset Advisory Commission
Subject: BHEC hearings

I am a psychologist who has been practicing over 40 years. It would be easy for me to adopt a "no big deal" attitude towards the changes proposed for the TSBEP, since I am nearing retirement.

However, I hope you will consider the thoughtful comments of my fellow psychologists as we express concern about the dilution of standards for mental health practice when it comes to the unique training and expertise of psychologists.

While we definitely should work in concert with other mental health groups to ensure that the needs of the public are addressed, that does not mean that our licensing process should be blended in with the regulatory operations of groups whose training and requirements to practice are so different from ours.

The path to becoming a licensed psychologist is a demanding one, and I think the public recognizes that in the higher regard given to psychologists compared to other, less rigorously trained mental health workers.

This does not imply that the other groups are not doing valuable work; they absolutely are. But the distinction given to psychologists is one that has been earned and should be maintained, if only to assist the public in being aware of the choices they have when seeking mental health treatment.

Please retain the TSBEP as a unique entity with a specific mission and purpose, primary among them being to protect the public with both education and regulation to maintain the high standards of psychological practice.

Thank you for giving this important issue the careful scrutiny it deserves.

Susan Hull, PhD