

From: [Sunset Advisory Commission](#)
To: [Janet Wood](#)
Subject: FW: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Public/After Publication)
Date: Monday, April 09, 2018 8:45:22 AM

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From: sundrupal@capitol.local [<mailto:sundrupal@capitol.local>]
Sent: Monday, April 09, 2018 8:45 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: Stephanie

Last Name: Jeffries-Webb

Title: San Gabriel Ind. Therapists

Organization you are affiliated with: San Gabriel Independent Therapists, Texas Counseling Association, The Net Connection, American Counseling Association

Email:

City: Georgetown

State: Texas

Your Comments About the Staff Report, Including Recommendations Supported or Opposed:

The Behavioral Health Executive Council will streamline administrative processes. We need a professional member on the BHEC. Mental health treatment has more stringent rules of professional boundaries than attorneys or physicians. Few members of the general public understand the intricacies of mental health treatment and its unique challenges. While the four Boards are similar in their goals of treating mental health, our training and rules are different enough that a professional from each board is desperately necessary. If the change is made without Professional representation from each board the State will be putting the citizens of Texas at great risk.

LPS's contribute almost 2 million dollars to the general fund for the state. Yet our Board was given about 25% of that to try and function.

Adequate staffing protects the public and helps a profession operate effectively. The state should at least fund the Boards appropriately and the BHEC, rather than tying one hand behind their back, blindfolding them and then blaming them for being dysfunctional as the state has done in the past.

Please be proactive. A great deal of time, money and effort went into the Sunset Process and the collaborative work of our professions. I hope that you value the input of the very people that do the work of treating the mental health of Texans.

Any Alternative or New Recommendations on This Agency: A Professional Member from each of the four Boards needs to sit on the BHEC. Our Boards should be adequately funded.

My Comment Will Be Made Public: I agree