

From: [Sunset Advisory Commission](#)
To: [Cecelia Hartley](#)
Subject: FW: Sunset Advisory Commission
Date: Tuesday, November 29, 2016 4:27:20 PM

From:
Sent: Tuesday, November 29, 2016 2:05 PM
To: Sunset Advisory Commission
Subject: Sunset Advisory Commission

To Whom it May Concern:

My name is Christine Kearney and I have a Master of Physical Therapy from UT Health Science Center in San Antonio. I have been a licensed Physical Therapist in the state of Texas since July 2007. I have been practicing in the acute care setting for the last 9 years, specializing in post operative cardiopulmonary patients at UT Southwestern Clements University Hospital. I am writing in regards to the Sunset Health Licensing Consolidation Project report that targets the Texas Board of Physical Therapy Examiners (TBPTE). I want to express my opposition to the Sunset Staff recommending the Texas Board of Physical Therapy Examiners be consolidated with the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation (TDLR). I encourage the legislative members of the Sunset Commission to vote against the consolidation of the Texas Board of Physical Therapy Examiners into the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation and retain the TBPTE as an independent state agency for the next 12 years, as was recommended on multiple occasions by the Sunset staff.

I am requesting this of the Sunset Committee as the idea of a non medical entity such as the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation being the ultimate decision makers in the Licensing process for Physical Therapists could negatively affect our patients safety statewide. The TDLR Commissioners have no medical knowledge or healthcare experience to make important decisions involving the direct patient care that is delivered by Physical Therapists on a daily basis. Do we really want the same individuals licensing for tow truck operators and well diggers to determine if a Physical Therapist is safe to practice on a friend or family member, I for one do not. The TDLR will only raise costs and reduce the standard of patient safety that we currently have in Texas. The Texas Board of Physical Therapy Examiners has shown to be a cost efficient, operationally effective and well managed agency that needs to remain in place.

Sincerely,

Christine Kearney, PT, MPT