

**From:** [Sunset Advisory Commission](#)  
**To:** [Cecelia Hartley](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Comments for TBPTE  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 29, 2016 8:03:45 AM

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**From:** Khan, Mohammed I.  
**Sent:** Monday, November 28, 2016 9:26 PM  
**To:** Sunset Advisory Commission  
**Subject:** Comments for TBPTE

Dear Sunset Commission,

I hope this message finds you well. I am responding to Sunset Commission's "plan to consolidate the PT Licensure Board into the Texas Department of Licensing & Regulation (TDLR). Here are my points as follows:

- My name is Mohammed Irfan Khan and I am a 3rd year Doctor of Physical Therapy student at the University of Texas Medical Branch (UTMB, 3 years). I have invested heavily into being a future practicing physical therapist through my education with my undergraduate degree at Houston Baptist University (4 years), volunteer hours at a physical therapy clinic (224 hours), participating in volunteer activities at UTMB as a full-time student (numerous), and my hard work.
- I, Mohammed Irfan Khan, oppose the consolidation of the TBPTE into the TDLR and retain the TBPTE as an independent state agency for the next 12 years, as this was recommended by the Sunset staff multiple times.
- Although the Sunset Staff makes a compelling argument on consolidation, putting the TBPTE into the TDLR puts the physical therapy profession in jeopardy in providing quality health care. I understand where the Sunset Staff is in using the TDLR as one entity that can focus its efforts on governing multiple agencies with having a staff of 53 who can be "cross-trained," this is not feasible for the TBPTE. Why? The TBPTE is a governing agency for the physical therapy board that regulates the practice act and provides the necessary regulations in providing health care in Texas. I understand that the Sunset Staff acts in good faith, but the TBPTE needs to be its own governing body and remain intact as an independent state agency. Having an agency like the TDLR govern the physical therapy profession would be unjust to patients who need physical therapy because TDLR does not have the prerequisite skills and knowledge to recommend and implement regulations conducive to a practice act.
- How can physical therapy advance health care and be put into a category with the TDLR? Physical therapy is about getting our patients back to their goals in being able to participate in daily life, return to a sport, or be able to do what they love. Until you put yourself in a patient's shoes, you will realize that going through an injury or condition that warrants physical therapy can be life changing. On my second clinical rotation at an outpatient orthopedic clinic, I know the impact that I am having on my patients' lives as one patient thanked me because her pain has been reduced (the pain was preventing her from participating in her household responsibilities and climbing stairs) or another patient thanked me as she was now able to straighten her arm out more (she had elbow tightness preventing her from straightening her arm). It is this kind of impact physical therapy has and I hope you consider retaining the TBPTE as an independent state agency.

- I would like to add that as a future physical therapist, I always strive to challenge myself. For me, physical therapy is a challenging field with the rigorous doctoral education, diverse patient population, and how each patient is different. Not everyone becomes a physical therapist because it takes a drive, passion, and pursuit to be in this field just like any field we pursue.

Sincerely,

**Mohammed Irfan Khan, SPT**

University of Texas Medical Branch

Doctor of Physical Therapy Program

Class of 2017