

From: [Karen Latta](#)
To: [Dawn Roberson](#)
Subject: FW: Sunset Advisory Comments - SBEC/SBOE
Date: Friday, October 17, 2014 10:02:58 AM

From: Kemp, Hailey [<mailto:Hailey.Kemp@tea.state.tx.us>]
Sent: Friday, October 17, 2014 9:27 AM
To: Karen Latta
Subject: FW: Sunset Advisory Comments - SBEC/SBOE

Karen,

Mavis Knight, SBOE Member, provided some comments to the report.

Thanks,

Comment 6.1 Integration of SBEC functions into TEA

Objection - More and more responsibilities are being given to the appointed Commissioner of Education and his staff. The difficulty with this recommendation is the concentration of decision-making into a single entity, the Commissioner and the resulting lack of accompanying transparency. Will the Commissioner open his meetings to the public for testimony as is the case with SBEC and the SBOE when regulations are being discussed? As the Commissioner takes on more responsibilities, will additional staff be added to assist with enhanced duties. While TEA may already provide support for some SBEC functions, this staff has not had to contend with the volume of SBEC inquiries. As an SBOE member, I have had to intervene on behalf of constituents who couldn't even get a phone call returned in a timely manner. Additionally for the twelve years that I have been in office, TEA has consistently experienced a reduction in force.

Comment 6.2 - The SBOE review process does not add to the public's access to the process.

Objection - Review by the SBOE of SBEC regulations provides a second pair of eyes to developed regulations and gives the public another opportunity to testify about proposed rules. Such testimony can and has influenced the SBOE to reject proposed rules. While rejection is infrequent and the SBEC and SBOE structure is cumbersome, the opportunity for additional input still exists.

Comment 6.3 - Advisory Committee

Question: Is the TEA to be the support system for helping this advisory group collect stakeholder information? If so are costs selected with collecting this data coming from the TEA budget with no new dollars. What is the mechanism for collecting input - surveys? Texas Register? ESC meetings? Will there be conference calls, video-conferencing, skype contact among this advisory group? Any face to face meetings at any point? Should there be a recommendation for the Legislature to grant reimbursement through the General Appropriations Act?