From: Sunset Advisory Commission

To: <u>Janet Wood</u>

Subject: FW: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Public/After Publication)

**Date:** Tuesday, November 15, 2016 12:01:02 PM

----Original Message-----

From: sundrupal@capitol.local [mailto:sundrupal@capitol.local]

Sent: Tuesday, November 15, 2016 11:57 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: Elizabeth

Last Name: Ledford

Title: Student

Organization you are affiliated with: University of North Texas

Email:

City: Dallas

State: Texas

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

To Whom It May Concern:

I strongly oppose the recommendation that mental health professional licensing should be under the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation.

Counseling is a very specific vocation, and should not be lumped together with other careers. We need to maintain the Texas State Board of Examiners of Professional Counselors so that the specific needs of counselors and clients will continue to be met. We need to ensure that our Code of Ethics remains intact. We need to ensure that clients are cared for to the best of our ability. We need to ensure that the people who are making decisions about our profession understand and value the need for mental health counseling.

Any Alternative or New Recommendations on This Agency: Please consider allowing the money from licensing fees to support the Texas State Board of Examiners of Professional Counselors in order to help maintain the board.

My Comment Will Be Made Public: I agree