From: <u>Sunset Advisory Commission</u>

To: <u>Trisha Linebarger</u>

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

Date: Wednesday, September 19, 2018 8:01:35 AM

----Original Message-----

From: sunset@sunset.texas.gov < sunset@sunset.texas.gov > On Behalf Of Texas Sunset Commission

Sent: Tuesday, September 18, 2018 11:53 PM

To: Sunset Advisory Commission <Sunset@sunset.texas.gov>

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

Agency: TEXAS FUNERAL SERVICE COMMISSION TFSC

First Name: THOMAS

Last Name: LEE

Title: MEMBER

Organization you are affiliated with: FUNERAL CONSUMER ALLIANCE

Email: nedlee@alumni.rice.edu

City: SAN ANTONIO

State: Texas

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

I support the positions described in the public comments submitted by leaders of the Funeral Consumer's Alliance (FCA), which are to disband this commission and assign its duties elsewhere, or, at least demand that the commission address the interests of families, rather than focusing on helping the funeral industry. My wife and I joined the FCA many years ago (the one-time membership fee is affordable to everyone) and used its services after the death of my 98-year-old mother-in-law. I know FCA is committed to the interests of the community and has direct, almost daily experience with how Texas families are treated when loved ones pass away. They say the Texas Funeral Commission is biased toward support of industry status quo, and I believe them. And reading the comment submitted by the Hankins reinforces my belief. Texas CONSUMERS need support, and Texas taxpayers shouldn't be forced to a contribute a million dollars a year toward an agency that does not support their interests.

It seems to me that the purpose of the Sunset Commission is to prevent the perpetuation of governmental organizations that are not serving the needs of the people of Texas. I support the FCA's position.

Any Alternative or New Recommendations on This Agency:

Sunset the Texas Funeral Service Commission and move its administrative functions to the Texas Licensing and Regulation Board for a net savings believed to be in excess of \$500,000 per year. If the Sunset Commission decision is to continue the TFSC, FCAT supports all four of Sunset Staff's issues with the TFSC, but with an additional demand to increase public support and education on the TFSC website.

My Comment Will Be Made Public: I agree