

From: [Elizabeth Jones](#)
To: [Janet Wood](#)
Subject: FW: Texas Holocaust & Genocide Commission
Date: Wednesday, December 2, 2020 11:56:07 AM

From: Sandy Lessig
Sent: Wednesday, December 2, 2020 11:51:39 AM (UTC-06:00) Central Time (US & Canada)
To: Sunset Advisory Commission
Subject: Texas Holocaust & Genocide Commission

Members of the Sunset Commission,

I have served on the THGC for two years and serve on the board of the World Federation of Jewish Child Survivors of the Holocaust and am deeply involved at Holocaust Museum Houston. With my involvement internationally as well as within the United States, particularly in Texas, I have seen the importance of our state's creation and commitment to Holocaust education. The projects and programs we have funded are considered models for other states, not an insignificant claim. States are increasingly creating Holocaust and Genocide Commissions. As an example, Colorado's legislature established theirs just this past spring. I spoke with some of those involved who commented favorably on what we have funded.

Granted, some changes need to be made. Our recent Strategic Planning process has helped to prioritize some of those changes. Perhaps the mandate provided by our legislature over ten years ago, needs to be revised as well. I believe some of our efforts were hampered by previous executive directors but with Joy Nathan and the committed members of the Commission, I believe we are moving forward on an extremely constructive path.

In this world of increasing hate crimes, educators are actively seeking tools to support the new legislation passed mandating Holocaust education. Our staff, the organization of resources found online and the work done by Commissioners must continue if we are to fulfill our responsibility to educators.

I humbly offer my opinion for your consideration.

Sandra Lessig