From: <u>Elizabeth Jones</u>
To: <u>Trisha Linebarger</u>

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

Date: Monday, July 6, 2020 6:54:05 AM

From: sunset@sunset.texas.govOn Behalf OfTexas Sunset Commission

Sent: Friday, July 3, 2020 11:34:52 AM (UTC-06:00) Central Time (US & Canada)

To: Sunset Advisory Commission

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

Agency: TEXAS DEPARTMENT LICENSING AND REGULATION

First Name: Barbara

Last Name: Levinson

Title: Ph.D, RN, LMFT, LSOTP

Organization you are affiliated with: Center for Healthy Sexuality

Email:

City: Houston

State: Texas

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

Please be advised that the use of LICENSED POLYGRAPH EXAMINERS is essential for the supervision of SEXUAL OFFENDERS in the Community. The Courts , the Criminal Justice Department - Probation, Parole, the United States Federal Probation Department ALL REQUIRE sexual offenders in the Community to submit to polygraph exams periodically throughout the year to monitor re-offending sexual behaviors and any engagement in high risk behaviors. If there is no licensing requirement for Polygraph Examiners then the Safety of the Community is definitely at significant risk. Sexual Offenders are the most manipulative and scheming criminals living in our Community and we, Courts, Supervision Officers, Parole Officers, CPS, Treatment Providers, depend heavily on polygraph information to ascertain the risk that they present.

Untrained individuals who are able to administer polygraph exams without training, continuing education requirements and oversight could unknowingly perpetuate continued sexual abuse within our families and our Community.

I would strongly encourage that the Polygraph Examiners be excluded from the Sunset Committee Overview as this is a profession that needs to be HIGHLY REGULATED AND PROFESSIONALLY LICENSED for the Safety Of the Community and the protection of our children.

Any Alternative or New Recommendations on This Agency: Please see recommendation above

My Comment Will Be Made Public: I agree