From: Sunset Advisory Commission

To: Brittany Calame

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

Date: Thursday, April 26, 2018 12:04:07 PM

----Original Message-----

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

Sent: Thursday, April 26, 2018 11:52 AM

To: Sunset Advisory Commission

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

Agency: TEXAS VETERANS COMMISSION TVC

First Name: Tracy

Last Name: Little

Title: Past President, Veterans County Service Officer's Association of Texas

Organization you are affiliated with: VCSOAT

Email:

City: Desoto

State: Texas

Your Comments About the Staff Report, Including Recommendations Supported or

Opposed: As past VCSOAT President, with more than 20 years of active duty service, the experience of serving in the military is crucial when using individual judgment and strategy to assist in applying applicable laws to a Veteran's service experience when applying for a VA benefit claim. Although most could be taught the law; one Cannot understand the culture and the spirit of military service unless you've lived it. Stop diluting the concentration of Veterans serving Veterans, uplifting and supporting each other (by proposing cuts in funding), when a Veteran returns home. Although knowledge can be taught, understanding cannot. A Veteran's transition back into the community is all ecompassing, a lifelong journey back into society... mentally, physically and spiritually. They need to be surrounded by a "band of Brothers and Sisters" because they will never ask for help, but you have to be able to extend the helping hand, beyond the standard checklist. This is NOT the "new normal" that you're dealing with.

Any Alternative or New Recommendations on This Agency: My recommendation is that the bond between Veterans not be broken. Veteran County Service Officer's need to remain Veterans.

My Comment Will Be Made Public: I agree