

To: Members of the Sunset Advisory Commission

From: Monica Martinez, Associate Commissioner, Standards and Support Services

RE: Sunset Staff Report on the Texas Holocaust and Genocide Commission

Thank you for sharing with us for review the Sunset Staff Report on the Texas Holocaust and Genocide Commission (THGC). We appreciate the time and energy that Sunset staff put into the review of and report on the THGC.

The Texas Education Agency (TEA) fully recognizes the importance of educating students and all Texans on the Holocaust and other genocides and supports efforts to provide resources and support to Texas public schools and to the public related to these topics.

As an ex officio member of the THGC, the Commissioner of Education designated agency staff with expertise in social studies and history education to serve as the designee to the commission. Given that agency staff have not been asked to actively participate with the THGC in recent years, we are not up to date on recent THGC activities and find it challenging to respond to the recommendation of Sunset staff. Regardless of the outcome of the Sunset Commission's review, the TEA will continue to support education for Texas public school students regarding the Holocaust and other genocides.

If you or your staff should have any additional questions, please contact me or Shelly Ramos, senior director, curriculum standards and student support, at (512) 463-9581 or shelly.ramos@tea.texas.gov.

Sincerely,

Monica Martinez
Associate Commissioner
Standards and Support Services