

# TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

5805 N LAMAR BLVD • BOX 4087 • AUSTIN, TEXAS 78773-0001

512/424-2000

[www.dps.texas.gov](http://www.dps.texas.gov)



STEVEN C. McCRAW  
DIRECTOR  
FREEMAN F. MARTIN  
RANDALL B. PRINCE  
JEFF WILLIAMS  
DEPUTY DIRECTORS



COMMISSION  
STEVEN P. MACH, CHAIRMAN  
NELDA L. BLAIR  
STEVE H. STODGHILL  
DALE WAINWRIGHT

June 25, 2020

Jennifer Jones  
Executive Director  
Sunset Advisory Commission  
P.O. Box 13066  
Austin, Texas 78711-3066

Director Jones,

Thank you for the opportunity to submit comments regarding Issue 4 of the Sunset Staff report on the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation.

DPS agrees with recommendation 4.9 and has additional recommendations regarding improving coordination on developing the content of driver license exams and reference materials.

In 2009, the State Legislature transferred the driver education program from DPS to the Texas Education Agency (TEA) and in 2015 as part of HB 1786 (84<sup>th</sup> Legislative Session), and yet the department has continued to produce study material and questions for the exam.

DPS recommends that it stop developing study material and test questions for the driver license exams it administers and instead uses testing and study material developed by the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation (TDLR). DPS would provide TDLR unfettered access to the results of the exams it administers; however, for third-party providers, comprehensive data is not submitted by the providers that show the total pass/fail rate for their students. Even if DPS were provided with this data by the education provider, DPS would not have the information to validate that a driver education instructor is providing adequate instruction.

DPS will work with TDLR to ensure the qualifications to be a Third-Party Skills Test provider (TPST) are in alignment with the requirements set by TDLR for driver education providers and instructors.

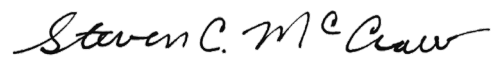
DPS has worked with our partners at TDLR and will continue to do so. The current MOU between the agencies was put on hold at the request of TDLR leadership to allow for time to incorporate recommendations from the Sunset process.

Jennifer Jones  
Sunset Advisory Commission  
Page 2

DPS agrees with recommendation 4.13, and a DPS representative will continue to serve on this committee. Currently, the manager of Issuance Services in the Driver License Division serves on the committee to ensure TDLR has the benefit of DPS input in the development of the curriculum.

Thank you for providing an opportunity for DPS to participate in this process.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Steven C. McCraw". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized "M" and "C".

Steven C. McCraw  
Director