

**From:** [Sunset Advisory Commission](#)  
**To:** [Janet Wood](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Public/After Publication)  
**Date:** Thursday, April 05, 2018 3:46:40 PM

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-----Original Message-----

From: sundrupal@capitol.local [<mailto:sundrupal@capitol.local>]  
Sent: Thursday, April 05, 2018 3:46 PM  
To: Sunset Advisory Commission  
Subject: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Public/After Publication)

Agency: TEXAS STATE BOARD EXAMINERS PROFESSIONAL COUNSELORS

First Name: Madison

Last Name: McDade

Title:

Organization you are affiliated with:

Email:

City: Austin

State: Texas

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

Dear Senator Birdwell,

I am in school to become a Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist. In the future I will work with a wide spectrum of the Austin community. I am writing in regard to the Sunset Bill that is up for further discussion that involves the Mental Health Care in Texas. It is critically important that all therapists of all levels whether Psychiatrist, Psychologists, Social Workers or Psychotherapists are able to diagnose mental health disorders in order to reach the widest population in our great state. With greater restrictions and reduction of our rights and privileges to treat our clientele completely, we increase the risk that those who need our counseling services will not be able to retain them due to the high costs and the limitations of professionals. It is clear now more than ever that mental health services are readily available to their full capacities. With Sandy Hook, Hurricane Harvey, our recent local bombing incident and all the others that have impacted our country in such a severe way and unfortunately "normalized" such horrific violence we need all the mental health professionals possible to reach as many citizens in need as possible. While such a huge number of incidents have occurred it is unmeasurable how many have been prevented because individuals and families in need have sought counseling support and treatment. Please protect our privilege to practice to the fullest extent of our current license. I support the recommendation to create the Behavioral Health Executive Council to house all four behavioral health regulatory agencies and to expand the composition of BHEC to include professional representation from each board as voting members. Thank you for your support, Concerned Citizen and Professional, Respectfully Submitted, Madison McDade MPH CPH CHES

Any Alternative or New Recommendations on This Agency:

I support the recommendation to create the Behavioral Health Executive Council to house all four behavioral health regulatory agencies and to expand the composition of BHEC to include professional representation from each board as voting members.

My Comment Will Be Made Public: I agree