

**From:** [Sunset Advisory Commission](#)  
**To:** [Cecelia Hartley](#)  
**Subject:** FW: PT Licensure Board  
**Date:** Monday, November 28, 2016 1:58:05 PM

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**From:** Karen McSpadden  
**Sent:** Monday, November 28, 2016 1:37 PM  
**To:** Sunset Advisory Commission  
**Subject:** PT Licensure Board

Dear Sunset Commission Members,

I am contacting you as a Doctor of Physical Therapy and Student Education Program Coordinator from a large multi-disciplinary clinic in San Angelo to express my concerns about the recent changes to the previously proposed and committed to Sunset Recommendations for the Texas Board of Physical Therapy Examiners (TBPTE) to retain its status as an independent agency (recommendation 4.1). I have practiced in the state of Texas for 6 years in both skilled nursing and outpatient clinic settings, and have attained my doctoral degree and additional advanced credentialing in orthopedic manual therapy skills since beginning my career.

I feel the Commission needs to put the Sunset Recommendation for retaining the TBPTE as an independent agency for the next 12 years back into play as it was initially proposed and committed to. Physical therapists are now a doctorally trained profession and should be respected as such with our own licensure board that is run by experts who understand legal and ethical issues specific to our profession, just as physicians are licensed and regulated by their own board that is educated on various issues that affect the practice of medicine. Additionally, the TBPTE has shown it can be an effective and cost-efficient state agency independently, while consolidation into the TDLR will only cost more, increase time to resolve complaints, and therefore reduce patient safety standards in our state. I thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Respectfully,  
Dr. Karen D. McSpadden, PT, DPT, MTC, CCCE