

From: [Sunset Advisory Commission](#)
To: [Brittany Calame](#)
Subject: FW: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Public/After Publication)
Date: Wednesday, April 25, 2018 1:44:17 PM

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

From: sundrupal@capitol.local [<mailto:sundrupal@capitol.local>]
Sent: Wednesday, April 25, 2018 1:15 PM
To: Sunset Advisory Commission
Subject: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Public/After Publication)

Agency: TEXAS VETERANS COMMISSION TVC

First Name: Sonny

Last Name: Medina

Title: Veteran

Organization you are affiliated with:

Email:

City: Houston

State: Texas

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

I strongly oppose the TVC changing the rules to allow non-veterans to serve as Veterans Service Officers. As a veteran who recently transitioned out of the Marine Corps, I requested assistance from a number of organizations, to include the TVC. I found the service that was provided to me by the Veterans Service Officer was far more productive than information that was provided to me from other organizations that were staffed by non-veterans.

While these non-veterans were sincere in their willingness to assist me, the service they provided just was not the same. Having a veteran assist me through my transition was far more productive. Maybe it was because I subconsciously gave them credit and legitimacy based on his veteran status.

I don't know. However, all of the other highly productive veterans assistance organizations hire veterans to be the representative who will work with and communicate with the "customer" veteran.

With so many veteran organizations offering to provide assistance, the TVC will lose credibility within the veteran population and will eventually become just another government program that simply exists.

Any Alternative or New Recommendations on This Agency: I highly recommend the TVC actively pursue veterans to fill their vacancies. There are plenty of service members who are exiting the military on a regular basis, filling these positions should not be an issue. Perhaps the TVC or the state recruiting effort needs some attention.

My Comment Will Be Made Public: I agree