

From: [Sunset Advisory Commission](#)
To: [Cecelia Hartley](#)
Subject: FW: Please Oppose the Combined Health Professions Board
Date: Tuesday, November 29, 2016 2:12:38 PM

From: Devan Ohl
Sent: Tuesday, November 29, 2016 2:07 PM
To: Sunset Advisory Commission
Subject: Please Oppose the Combined Health Professions Board

To Ken Levine and the Sunset Advisory Commission,

I am a Doctor of Physical Therapy practicing in Houston, Tx. I received my DPT degree in 2015 from Texas Woman's University in Houston and have been practicing in Outpatient Orthopedic, Home Health, and Skilled Nursing settings throughout the greater Houston area since earning my license.

Regarding the Sunset Commission's proposal that the Texas Physical Therapy Board be combined with the Texas Department of Licensing & Regulation (TDLR): **I strongly urge you to oppose the combined health professions board. Instead, it is imperative that we continue to allow the Texas Board of Physical Therapy Examiners (TBPTE) to operate as an independent state agency .**

The current Physical Therapy Board is comprised of physical therapists who are the most qualified individuals to make decisions regarding the practice of physical therapy in Texas. If the board is combined with the TDLR, individuals from completely unrelated professions who do not have a full understanding of the nature and scope of physical therapy practice, or of the nature of healthcare state- or nation-wide, will be making decisions on how physical therapists can practice and on how patients can receive physical therapy.

It would be in the best interest of patients for the practice of physical therapy to be overseen by those who have the most knowledge and experience in this domain. The Physical Therapy Board has proven itself to be effective for many years in regulating the practice of physical therapy in Texas. **Alternatively, the TDLR consolidation will cost more, deliver less, and reduce the standard of patient safety in Texas.**

Once again, I ask you to **allow the TBPTE to remain as an independent stage agency so that it may best protect the interests of patients in Texas.**

Thank you for your consideration,

Devan Ohl, PT, DPT
Transition Home Health, Legend-TruCare, Trinity PT