From: Sunset Advisory Commission

To: <u>Trisha Linebarger</u>

Subject: FW: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Public/After Publication)

Date: Monday, December 3, 2018 11:04:43 AM

----Original Message-----

From: sunset@sunset.texas.gov <sunset@sunset.texas.gov> On Behalf Of Texas Sunset Commission

Sent: Monday, December 3, 2018 9:57 AM

To: Sunset Advisory Commission <Sunset@sunset.texas.gov>

Subject: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Public/After Publication)

Agency: TEXAS STATE BOARD PLUMBING EXAMINERS

First Name: Mark

Last Name: Park

Title: Vice President

Organization you are affiliated with: AAA Plumbers, Inc.

Email: mark@aaaplumbers.com

City: Houston

State: Texas

Your Comments About the Staff Report, Including Recommendations Supported or

Opposed: I oppose the oversight of the plumbing license being regulated by TDLR for many reasons. However, many have been stated and I wanted to focus on one I have not seen mentioned. The TDLR lacks an enforcement arm for individuals not following the law. The TSBPE is currently able to warn, fine, and take legal action against individuals and companies that are not properly licensed and/or not following established codes to protect the citizens of Texas. For example, the TDLR currently has the Texas Boiler Administrative Rules to regulate anything over 200,000 BTUs. However, they lack the ability to enforce actions against anyone not following the regulations and working on and installing boilers under their jurisdiction. I know this first hand after trying to report an unlicensed company competing on the same project as my company. I was told that while the other company was not following the rules under TDLR, my best option was to try the TSBPE to catch them on advertising without a master plumber license because they did not have the ability to enforce any penalties. They rely on the TSBPE's enforcement department to help regulate boiler installations that they are required to oversee.

Any Alternative or New Recommendations on This Agency: My recommendations would be to replace the TSBPE's board members in a timely manner once their term expires and to use some of the revenue generated from the TSBPE to modernize the testing procedures. The TSBPE currently contributes almost half of their revenue generated to the general fund, while only appropriated the other half for operations. It would seem there is plenty of money to modernize the TSBPE, while still generating revenue for the general fund. As the workforce and demand for licensed plumbers in Texas has grown, the budget for the TSBPE doesn't seem to have grown with it to keep up with demand.

My Comment Will Be Made Public: I agree