

From: [Sunset Advisory Commission](#)
To: [Trisha Linebarger](#)
Subject: FW: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Public/After Publication)
Date: Tuesday, November 27, 2018 7:05:30 AM

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

From: sunset@sunset.texas.gov <sunset@sunset.texas.gov> On Behalf Of Texas Sunset Commission
Sent: Tuesday, November 27, 2018 12:04 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: Brian

Last Name: Peabody

Title: Training Coordinator

Organization you are affiliated with: Local 286 JAC

Email: bpeabody@local286.org

City: Austin

State: Texas

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

I am responding to the Sunset Staff Report on the Texas State Board of Plumbing Examiners submitted to the Sunset Advisory Commission. I am appreciative of the effort put into the review by the staff, and I am grateful for the fact that we are trying to make improvements for our industry. With that being said, I strongly disagree with a majority of the recommendations stated in the report.

I do not believe that moving the TSBPE to TDLR is a viable solution. While there are issues that need to be resolved with the manner in which TSBPE functions on a daily basis, moving it to TDLR is not the answer. TDLR has not solved the shortage of skilled tradesmen in the industries that they currently oversee. Making a few minor adjustments to the exam process, like offering monitored online written exams, would certainly speed up the process on the exam center's end. Also, I do not agree with taking the practical out of the journeyman exam. It seems like a very short term, temporary solution.

I, for one, would like to know that the men and women who have a direct impact on the safety and health of the public, are capable and qualified to be considered a licensed plumber. Many sacrifices have been made to get to where we are today and the majority of the recommendations being made feel like we are headed in the wrong direction. Perhaps some of the money being generated by the TSBPE could be invested towards modernizing an outdated exam process. We should be encouraging our public education system to encourage our youth to at least consider the skilled trades as a viable, post-graduation option, instead of pushing everyone towards a college institution. We should continue to monitor who is allowed to become a licensed apprentice and allowed to come into our homes. The TSBPE should remain its own separate entity and continue to produce qualified plumbers for the state of Texas. An attempt to make corrections needs to be made before making rash decisions that would affect such an important industry. Thank you for your time and attention to this matter, and I hope that you consider all viable options before making a decision.

Any Alternative or New Recommendations on This Agency: Do not transfer the regulation of plumbers to TDLR.

Make minor adjustments to improve the testing process and make it more time/cost efficient.

My Comment Will Be Made Public: I agree