

From: [Sunset Advisory Commission](#)
To: [Cecelia Hartley](#)
Subject: FW: A request to maintain the TBPTE as an independent state agency
Date: Tuesday, November 29, 2016 10:07:23 AM

From: Alesia Pearson
Sent: Tuesday, November 29, 2016 10:03 AM
To: Sunset Advisory Commission
Subject: A request to maintain the TBPTE as an independent state agency

To Whom it may Concern:

As a Physical Therapist licensed by the State of Texas and in practice for over 19 years, I am contacting you today regarding my concern related to the proposed change to the licensing board. As a professional in the medical field, I am confident in the strict and high level of standard currently held by the PT Licensure Board, both in professional ethical standards and in standards of practice. Physical Therapy provides a wide variety of care in a variety of settings, not just limited to hospitals, in-patient rehab or nursing homes. PT's provide care for the full life span from premi babies to the oldest geriatrics; in homes, schools, nursing homes, group homes, out-patient clinics, hospitals, nursing homes, and yes, even on horseback, just to name a few. PTs work with children with disabilities, athletes, quadriplegics, amputees, those with chronic illnesses, head injuries, strokes, debility from prolonged illness....and the list goes on. With such a diverse field of care provided, I believe it is important to have a licensing board that is aware of the many various issues related to providing excellent and appropriate care to those who entrust their health and well-being to those in my profession – in all settings. And a board that will supervise and maintain high standards of ethics and quality care to ensure the safe treatment of clients and patients is a must. With ever-changing Medicare guidelines and the constantly evolving medical field, we need an independent board that is able to focus on the many issues directly related to the delivery of physical therapy.

I have gone back to school and worked to complete a DPT degree this coming May (building on my previous MSPT). As a doctoral-level professional, I have worked hard for my degree and for my professional position. Working closely with physicians in a large hospital in Dallas, I know they rely on my expertise for working with patients in ICU, for monitoring patients' tolerance for activity, for providing patients and their families with the training they need to safely return home, and for my recommendations for a patient's needs at discharge. I take pride in my professional work and I take pride in my career. I fear that placing a varied group of professions and occupations under one umbrella in the Tx Department of Licensing and Regulation, as is currently proposed, under supervision of those unfamiliar with the necessary medical knowledge and full understanding of all the interventions the PT profession provides, will potentially, eventually, put the public at risk and affect the high standards of my profession. I am aware that the Sunset Commission staff on multiple occasions recommended maintaining the Tx Board of PT Examiners at its current status as an independent and efficient state agency. I respectfully urge you to follow those recommendations and maintain the TBPTE as an independent agency, maintaining my profession and protecting the public.

I thank you for your time and consideration. You are welcome to contact me if you would like to further discuss my comments or concerns.

Respectfully,
Alesia Pearson, PT, CI