

From: [Sunset Advisory Commission](#)
To: [Janet Wood](#)
Subject: FW: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Public/After Publication)
Date: Monday, April 02, 2018 10:32:19 AM

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

From: sundrupal@capitol.local [<mailto:sundrupal@capitol.local>]
Sent: Monday, April 02, 2018 10:04 AM
To: Sunset Advisory Commission
Subject: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Public/After Publication)

Agency: TEXAS STATE BOARD EXAMINERS PROFESSIONAL COUNSELORS

First Name: Carrie

Last Name: Proctor

Title: Licenced Professional Counselor, Certified School Counselor, National Certified Counselor

Organization you are affiliated with:

Email:

City: Round Rock

State: Texas

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

1. Approve the creation of the Texas Behavioral Health Council to regulate the 4 current boards for Social Workers, Marriage and Family Therapists, Licensed Professional Counselors, and Psychologists.
2. Disagree with the recommendation to have 1 public member appointed by each board.
3. Agree with an independent presiding officer appointed by the governor.
4. Agree with fingerprints, background checks, and looking at any prior disciplinary action for out of state applicants.
5. Agree with initial set up expenditure to set up agency and staff appropriately.

Any Alternative or New Recommendations on This Agency:

1. Our current LPC Board has 5 professional representative (3 must be in private practice, 1 must be a counselor educator) and 4 public members.
Instead of the proposed 1 public member from each board, I would suggest amending it to 1 professional and 1 public member for each of the 4 boards and retain the proposed Governor appointee as a Presiding Officer. This would allow a 9 member board comprised of 4 professional members (1 LPC, 1 LMFT, 1 LMSW, 1 Psychologist) and 5 public members) including the Presiding Officer.
The input of practicing mental health professionals is vital for the TBHEC to effectively protect the public and regulate the profession.
2. There are many LPCs, LMSWs and psychologists that have already had fingerprinting done if they have been

employed as educators in Texas. I would request that if a mental health provider already had fingerprints done for an educator certification that they would not have the expense of submitting it again.

3. I would request that the license fees and jurisprudence exam costs be utilized to support the TBHEC and not diverted to the general fund. I believe that if the independent boards had been allowed to keep the revenue generated by licensees that we would not have the staffing issues and backlog of license applications and complaints.

My Comment Will Be Made Public: I agree