

From: [Sunset Advisory Commission](#)
To: [Cecelia Hartley](#)
Subject: FW: TBPE for Sunset Review
Date: Tuesday, November 29, 2016 4:47:30 PM

From: Pybus, Emily
Sent: Tuesday, November 29, 2016 4:38 PM
To: Sunset Advisory Commission
Subject: TBPE for Sunset Review

Hello,

My name is Emily Pybus, and I am a Doctor of Physical Therapy, practicing in the Neurologic & Pediatric rehabilitation fields at The Institute of Research & Rehabilitation (TIRR) Memorial Hermann, in Houston. We were recently ranked the second best rehabilitation facility in the nation by the U.S. News & World Report. I have been in practice for one year, after finishing my doctorate degree at The University of Texas Medical Branch. It has been an absolute joy and the most rewarding experience to be a practicing clinician after 7 years of higher education. The environment at TIRR, a place of leadership in our field for both research and clinical practice, is one of challenge, continual learning, striving for expertise and best outcomes, exciting success stories, and a place of hope for our patients recovering from diagnoses such as Spinal Cord Injuries, Brain Injuries, Strokes, Multiple Sclerosis, Parkinson's Disease, Amputations, Cerebral Palsy, rare genetic disorders, and a plethora of others. Our field of physical therapy is necessary in the lives of our clients; rehab is mandatory for their daily function as we are teaching the brain how to re-network the neural connections in the body to function as normally as possible again, to strengthen their muscles, to train and teach them how to move again - how to walk again! We are specially trained and educated in how to accomplish this and how to empower our patients in their own bodies after being given the label of "disabled."

I am emailing to emphasize that the consolidation of the Texas Board of Physical Therapy Examiners (our current licensing body) into the TDLR is a huge mistake and a costly devastation to not just Physical Therapists' careers, but to the patients in Texas, and those who come to TIRR specifically from other states and across the world! If our field is consolidated into the TDLR, the voice speaking for us and our patients will not be qualified with the adequate requisite medical knowledge or clinical experience and expertise necessary to make ultimate decisions for healthcare. The people of Texas will be in jeopardy when it comes to recovering from disabilities, surgeries, orthopedic injuries, and life-threatening illnesses. If the same agency in charge of licensing tow truck operators is in charge of licensing Doctors of Physical Therapy, how can we be secure in knowing that decisions for our state will be made in our patients' best interest? Is this low standard really one that we desire our state to be proud of? In addition, the Texas Board of Physical Therapy Examiners is an extremely cost-efficient, operationally effective, and well-managed state agency; the consolidation into the TDLR will actually cost more, deliver less, and decrease the standard of patient care and safety in Texas - is this really what we want? I plead your ear and understanding. This is of uttermost importance to all citizens of Texas as nearly everyone has, or will be, a patient or a patient's loved one at some point in life.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

Emily Pybus, PT, DPT
Physical Therapist I
TIRR Memorial Hermann Adult and Pediatric Outpatient Rehabilitation

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