

**From:** [Sunset Advisory Commission](#)  
**To:** [Janet Wood](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Public/After Publication)  
**Date:** Monday, April 09, 2018 4:27:03 PM

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

From: sundrupal@capitol.local [<mailto:sundrupal@capitol.local>]  
Sent: Monday, April 09, 2018 4:21 PM  
To: Sunset Advisory Commission  
Subject: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Public/After Publication)

Agency: TEXAS STATE BOARD EXAMINERS PROFESSIONAL COUNSELORS

First Name: Jennifer

Last Name: Roberts

Title: Director of Student Support Services

Organization you are affiliated with:

Email: jroberts@lcsd.org

City: Rosenberg

State: Texas

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

I agree/support:

1. The boards are acting in good faith and have made notable strides in addressing the previously identified problems. . . However, significant problems and challenges remain that cannot be resolved within the current structure.
2. The continued administrative attachment of the marriage and family therapy, professional counseling and social work boards to a large agency. . . is still not working. . . The dysfunction created by such a model places the livelihoods of licensees in jeopardy and puts the public at risk.
3. The consolidated agency [TSBEMFT, TSBEPC, TSBSWE and TSBEP] structure of the Behavioral Health Executive Council presents the best approach to align the regulation of these behavioral health professions and elevate the attention and oversight of these programs.
4. More efficient and effective regulation of these professions will not only provide improved services and increased responsiveness to licensees but also will better protect behavioral health care consumers.

I DISAGREE

The executive council would be composed of one public member appointed by each of the four boards and an independent presiding officer appointed by the governor.

Any Alternative or New Recommendations on This Agency:

I support the structure of BHEC as proposed during the last Sunset Review to include one professional and one public member appointed by each board, with the presiding officer appointed by the Governor.

- None of the boards that regulate health professionals is composed exclusively of public members. In fact, the Sunset Commission staff recommendations for the Board of Medical Examiners does not propose to restructure that Board to create an all or majority public member structure.

- The original recommendation for BHEC still creates a public majority board. Including professional members brings expertise that would likely be lost if BHEC was composed of public members with professional members relegated to “ex officio” roles.
- The behavioral health regulatory boards currently housed at HHSC work collaboratively with respect for the uniqueness of each specialization. This is evidenced by their implementation of consistent disciplinary matrices and alignment of rules where appropriate.
- Including professional members on BHEC is much more likely to enhance consistency in standards than interference on standards of practice, licensing and enforcement decisions since no profession would hold a majority on BHEC.

My Comment Will Be Made Public: I agree