

**From:** [Sunset Advisory Commission](#)  
**To:** [Cecelia Hartley](#)  
**Subject:** FW: TBPTE  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 29, 2016 8:04:15 AM

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**From:** Schaeffer, Daniel Jordan [mailto:Daniel.Schaeffer@harrishealth.org]  
**Sent:** Monday, November 28, 2016 8:07 PM  
**To:** Sunset Advisory Commission  
**Subject:** TBPTE

My name is Daniel Schaeffer and I am a physical therapist residing in Houston, Texas. As a resident of Harris county, I appeal to you in opposition of the consolidation of the TBPTE into the TDLR.

As a physical therapist practicing in the state of Texas, it is important to me that our therapists be held to the highest ethical and clinical standards including but not limited to participation in high-quality continuing education and exceptional clinical care. Clinical care should not only be safe and effective but also provide patients with expert, researched based treatments that exceed that of basic practice in the United States. Through the utilization of the TBPTE board, Texas has met and exceeded my expectations by meeting the aforementioned criteria in a cost efficient manner.

While I understand that the consolidation may seem reasonable to someone outside of the field of physical therapy, it does not provide me with confidence that these very important goals will be met. Only a clinician in my field of physical therapy should make decisions regarding what quality physical therapy looks like in this state. By taking these decisions away from clinicians and giving it to an arbitrary board of individuals, you would be choosing to lower the standard of practice in my field.

On a personal level, I want you to know that I pride myself on being a well-educated, patient centered clinician. I have recently received my doctorate in physical therapy and am working toward a board certification in neurology, and utilize my knowledge in acute, inpatient, and outpatient settings. I consider it my calling in life to assist patients in healing and reaching their maximal potential in life. The current physical therapy board has served me and my patients very well thus far and it is very important to me that we maintain that level of competence in our field. By taking the decision-making abilities from physical therapists and giving it to individuals with little to no knowledge of my field, you are jeopardizing the level of care that my patients may receive.

This board has efficiently and cost-effectively provided us with entry-level testing for licensure that requires our therapists to meet a minimal competency level that I am comfortable with as well as monitoring our continuing education to ensure that our physical therapists are learning skills that will benefit the patients in their area of practice.

Please do not jeopardize our clients in Harris county or those throughout the state of Texas by changing a system that not only works, but works well. I ask that you thoughtfully consider the importance of maintaining our TBPTE as an independent and efficient entity

and oppose the consolidation to the TDLR. I truly appreciate your consideration in this matter as it is so important to my patients that the quality of care available in Texas be maintained at the highest level.

Sincerely,

Daniel Schaeffer, PT, DPT  
Physical Therapist  
Neurologic Physical Therapy Resident  
Harris Health System- Quentin Mease  
[Daniel.Schaeffer@harrishealth.org](mailto:Daniel.Schaeffer@harrishealth.org)

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