From: Sunset Advisory Commission

To: <u>Janet Wood</u>

Subject: FW: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Public/After Publication)

Date: Monday, April 09, 2018 1:02:54 PM

----Original Message----

From: sundrupal@capitol.local [mailto:sundrupal@capitol.local]

Sent: Monday, April 09, 2018 12:18 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: Christine

Last Name: Sheppard

Title:

Organization you are affiliated with: St. Mary's University of San Antonio

Email:

City: San Antonio

State: Texas

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

I am a CMHC student at St. Mary's University scheduled to graduate this summer. I understand from those students who have graduated immediately before me that the licensure process is three to six months long. This delay has caused problems for the recent graduates as they are trying to begin repaying their student loans yet cannot use the "LPC Intern" designation until the license is procured. Students who have invested in a counseling education in Texas should not be penalized by a long waiting period for licensure.

Any Alternative or New Recommendations on This Agency: 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.

My Comment Will Be Made Public: I agree