

**From:** [Sunset Advisory Commission](#)  
**To:** [Trisha Linebarger](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Public/After Publication)  
**Date:** Monday, December 3, 2018 8:01:03 AM

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

From: sunset@sunset.texas.gov <sunset@sunset.texas.gov> On Behalf Of Texas Sunset Commission  
Sent: Friday, November 30, 2018 6:43 PM  
To: Sunset Advisory Commission <Sunset@sunset.texas.gov>  
Subject: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Public/After Publication)

Agency: TEXAS STATE BOARD PLUMBING EXAMINERS

First Name: Brady

Last Name: Simons

Title: Journeyman Plumber

Organization you are affiliated with: UA Local 286

Email:

City: Austin

State: Texas

Your Comments About the Staff Report, Including Recommendations Supported or Opposed: I am not "just a plumber." I have pre-med Bachelors of Science degree from Midwestern State University with a major in biology and minor in chemistry. I've also completed 5 years of apprenticeship with the UA Plumbers and Pipefitters Union and am a licensed journeyman plumber with a medical gas endorsement. I take my job seriously. Proper plumbing protects the public.

Drinking water should be free of pathogens from feces and wastes. The air everyone breathes indoors should be free of sewer gas, carbon monoxide and other hazards. The piping systems that carry oxygen to patients in hospitals need to be installed properly so people don't die from breathing air while they are being treated. Proper testing and licensing ensures that those who are installing plumbing systems have be trained adequately. They are knowledgeable enough to keep the public safe. They have the hands on skills to properly plumb in a house, successfully install pipe starting at one specific location and ending in another specific location and join pipe in all the various ways without leaking.

Any Alternative or New Recommendations on This Agency: I recommend taking the excess \$2.6 million generated by the State Board of Plumbing Examiners and using it to convert the written test into a computer based test, and hiring more people to administer the hands-on test. The written portion could be turned into a computer based test that could be administered at testing locations across the state. This would free more people to administer the hands-on test. The hands-on portion needs to be done by the Texas State Board of Plumbers examiners at its current location. The test and testing center is not what's broken. It in fact keep the public safe.

My Comment Will Be Made Public: I agree