

**From:** [Elizabeth Jones](#)  
**To:** [Trisha Linebarger](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Public/After Publication)  
**Date:** Wednesday, June 24, 2020 3:00:56 PM

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From: sunset@sunset.texas.gov On Behalf Of Texas Sunset Commission  
Sent: Wednesday, June 24, 2020 2:59:50 PM (UTC-06:00) Central Time (US & Canada)  
To: Sunset Advisory Commission  
Subject: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Public/After Publication)

Agency: TEXAS DEPARTMENT LICENSING AND REGULATION

First Name: STACY

Last Name: SMITH

Title:

Organization you are affiliated with: Humane Tomorrow

Email: ssmith@humanetomorrow.org

City: FLOWER MOUND

State: Texas

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

I strenuously oppose the recommendation to sunset the Breeder law. We fought for so long to pass this law, and worked hard to make it fair to legitimate, responsible breeders. As the executive director of an animal rescue agency, I have seen firsthand the impact that the presence of such a law made. In October 2012, just one month after this law went into effect, 51 Maltese dogs were abandoned by a breeder in west Flower Mound, the area my organization serves. The condition of the dogs made it clear that they had been dumped to avoid any inspection, which surely would have resulted in cruelty charges. I encourage you to see for yourselves in this video produced by my organization shortly after their rescue:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=g8wXNuhNmy4&t=193s>

Just imagine the impact that the law could have if it had actually been given any teeth by the TDLR. In my 25 years in animal rescue, I have seen Texas go from being one of the top puppy mill-friendly states to one that is not even listed on the Humane Society of the United States' list of worst 100 breeders in the country. That is in no small part due to this presence of this law, and it would be a tremendous step backward to repeal it.

Any Alternative or New Recommendations on This Agency: I strongly encourage you to consider strengthening the regulations governing this law, making it easier to report and inspect breeders, rather than eliminating it. Texas should not be a haven for puppy mills.

My Comment Will Be Made Public: I agree