From: Sunset Advisory Commission

To: <u>Janet Wood</u>

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

Date: Wednesday, April 11, 2018 4:36:12 PM

----Original Message-----

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

Sent: Wednesday, April 11, 2018 4:16 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: Kathleen

Last Name: Stiefel

Title: Texas State University Student

Organization you are affiliated with: Texas Counselor Association, American Counselor Association, Texas Association of Counselor Education and Supervisor,

Email:

City: Kyle

State: Texas

Your Comments About the Staff Report, Including Recommendations Supported or

Opposed: Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the latest Sunset Review finding. As a non-traditional student enrolled in the Professional Counseling graduate program at Texas State University, I will be applying for my LPC -intern and LPC licensure soon. And as a member of American Counseling, Texas Counseling Association, and Texas Association for Counselor Education and Supervision, I have been in many discussions with other students and professionals about the recommendations and concerns brought up in the Sunset Review. I agree that due to the lack of administrative staff, the delay in obtaining licenses is very troublesome and affecting the livelihood of many professionals in the mental health field. I agree in the Sunset Review's suggestion with combining the regulatory boards for License Professional Counselors, Licensed Marriage and Family Therapies, Social Work, and psychologist in the one, Behavioral Health Executive Council. A combined council allowing the mental health professionals to have more solid representation in the State government. I disagree that the non-professional representative of each board be a public individual.

Any Alternative or New Recommendations on This Agency: Instead of a public member, I suggest that a voting member from each professional board be placed on the board. A representative from each mental health profession will be the most informed and most affected representatives. They will be more aware of concerns and needs of each professional group.

My Comment Will Be Made Public: I agree