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 4:01:31 PM

----Original Message-----

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

Sent: Monday, April 09, 2018 2:47 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: Ann

Last Name: Stoneson

Title: LPC-S

Organization you are affiliated with:

Email: ann@labyrinthhealing.com

City: Austin

State: Texas

Your Comments About the Staff Report, Including Recommendations Supported or

Opposed: I am a licensed professional counselor & supervisor in Texas. I agree with the recommendations of the Sunset Advisory Commission with respect to oversight of licensed professional counselors in the state of Texas, particularly the recommendations regarding increasing funding and recruitment of qualified staff for processing license applications, and the recommendations regarding fingerprinting, background checks, and establishing an informal system for resolving less serious complaints regarding licensee conduct. I have watched numerous supervisees lose or defer job offers and income, as well as have to pay hundreds to thousands of dollars in additional supervision fees to me because the board has taken 4-5 months to process a two-page, error-free application. The licensing board as it currently operates is broken, and I believe the recommendations made in this report will have a better chance of protecting licensee and public interests, and better safeguard the profession as a whole.

Any Alternative or New Recommendations on This Agency: None at this time; I support the recommendations as they are currently published for the TSBEPC.

My Comment Will Be Made Public: I agree