

Sunset Commission

- **Move TSBPE over to TDLR:** Bad idea. The TDLR cannot effectively take care of all of the license types that they are in charge of now. The TSBPE has asked for additional employees to relieve the double and triple duties that the current staff endures. You have denied them these additional staffing! The TSBPE brings in a lot of revenue from citations for illegal work. They have the knowledge and expertise to assist our Texas citizens with faulty, incorrect plumbing installations that could have serious health and life safety repercussions. The TSBPE is recognized across the United States as being the premier plumbing licensing agency in the country. Many are striving to be similar and have come to our Board to review their processes and set up.
- **Eliminate RUI/Drain Cleaner registrations:** The Sunset Review committee indicated that they thought that there were some obstacles for advancement and/or attracting individuals into the trade, yet they are recommending eliminating these endorsements that allows and apprentice to move in the direction of advancing and while doing so, a chance to increase their salary. This will have a negative effect on all apprentices, but especially those that already have these endorsements and are doing this work. They point at the low numbers with these endorsements, but what they did not account for was the fact that there is a turnover in effect. This turnover is the fact that once they get the 2000 hours for this endorsement, in another 2000 hours they are eligible to take the exam to obtain a Tradesman license. Once obtained they no longer need that endorsement!! So as new ones get the endorsement, older ones are dropped because they got their license. So it really is not a low number, it is a revolving number!
- **Outsource exams and Eliminate practical components thereof:** I have already indicated that other states, that only have a written exam, are wanting to be similar to our Board because of the complete exam process they do. Without the practical portion, we could be sending individuals into people's homes and businesses that may be book smart and can pass a written test but can't truly install the plumbing to code. This would leave our citizens with a home or building with unsanitary conditions and unsafe drinking water. The practical aspect is of utmost importance and it is ludicrous that the Sunset Commission would even suggest such a thing, especially since in their final comments, they indicated how important it is to protect Texas citizens from faulty plumbing!!!