

**From:** [Elizabeth Jones](#)  
**To:** [Trisha Linebarger](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Public/After Publication)  
**Date:** Thursday, July 16, 2020 3:26:13 PM

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From: sunset@sunset.texas.gov On Behalf Of Texas Sunset Commission  
Sent: Thursday, July 16, 2020 3:25:05 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: Megan

Last Name: Swisher

Title:

Organization you are affiliated with:

Email:

City: Argyle

State: Texas

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

Please do not eliminate the Texas Dog & Cat Breeder Act enacted in 2011. My family has adopted two dogs that were victims of puppy mills; one was dumped in the middle of the road along with 50 other dogs from a puppy mill shortly after this act went into place. It took several years for this dog to be comfortable being picked up, and even now he freezes prior to being handled.

Many of his teeth were rotten at the time he was dumped, not only due to lack of proper nutrition and hygiene, but also from constantly chewing on his crate. He also sustained corneal damage due to prolonged exposure to living in a urine saturated environment. His hair was unbelievably matted with dirt and feces from years of not being cared for and groomed. Both of our former puppy mill dogs are male, and both have been almost impossible to house train because they spent so many years living in cages and became accustomed to eating, sleeping, urinating and defecating in the same confined space. No animal should ever have to live in these conditions, and the breeder act serves as a deterrent to those who care more about money than the health, care, and safety of the animals they breed.

Texas is overrun with unwanted dogs and cats. Although rescue organizations work tirelessly to re-home as many animals as possible to other states that do not have this problem, each year local animal shelters, many of which are at or exceeding capacity, are forced to make the heartbreaking decision to euthanize thousands of animals. There is no reason to set up a situation that allows for these problems to simply increase.

Any Alternative or New Recommendations on This Agency: Please keep the Texas Dog & Cat Breeder Act in place.

My Comment Will Be Made Public: I agree