From: Sunset Advisory Commission

To: <u>Janet Wood</u>

Subject: FW: Texas Sunset Advisory Commission Staff Report – Texas State Board of Examiners of Psychologists

Date: Wednesday, November 30, 2016 5:00:08 PM

Attachments: <u>image001.png</u>

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From: HILLARY THOMAS [mailto:HILLARY.THOMAS@childrens.com]

Sent: Wednesday, November 30, 2016 4:56 PM

To: Sunset Advisory Commission

Subject: Texas Sunset Advisory Commission Staff Report – Texas State Board of Examiners of

Psychologists

To Whom This May Concern,

Please distribute the following email to all of the Sunset Committee Members:

Re: Texas Sunset Advisory Commission Staff Report – Texas State Board of Examiners of Psychologists

Dear Sunset Committee Member,

I am a licensed psychologist in the state of Texas. I would like to provide comments on some aspects of the Sunset Advisory Commission's staff report, namely:

- 1. The Board's Oral Examination is an Unnecessary Requirement for Licensure
- 2. Requiring a Year of Post-Doctoral Supervision is an Unnecessary Hurdle to Licensure, Potentially Contributing to the Mental Health Care Provider Shortage in Texas
- 4. Texas Should Continue Regulating Psychologists, but Decisions on the Structure of the Texas State board of Examiners of Psychologists Await Further Review
- 5. A Recent Court Decision Opens the Door to unlicensed Practice of Psychology

In sum, I am <u>opposed</u> to items 1 and 2 of the Sunset Advisory Commission staff report. I also am <u>opposed</u> to the separate staff report (released 11/15/16) recommending the consolidation of TSBEP under TDLR. I am <u>in favor of</u> a new definition of "psychologist" in Texas that acknowledges diagnosis as an essential component of the practice of psychology.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on the Sunset review process for the Texas psychology practice act. If you have any questions or need further information, please contact me at hillary.thomas@childrens.com

Respectfully submitted,



Hillary M. Thomas, Ph.D.

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