

From: [Sunset Advisory Commission](#)
To: [Trisha Linebarger](#)
Subject: FW: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Public/After Publication)
Date: Tuesday, November 27, 2018 7:06:17 AM

-----Original Message-----

From: sunset@sunset.texas.gov <sunset@sunset.texas.gov> On Behalf Of Texas Sunset Commission
Sent: Monday, November 26, 2018 6:12 PM
To: Sunset Advisory Commission <Sunset@sunset.texas.gov>
Subject: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Public/After Publication)

Agency: TEXAS STATE BOARD PLUMBING EXAMINERS

First Name: Robert

Last Name: Thornton

Title: Business Manager

Organization you are affiliated with: United Association of Plumbers and Pipefitters

Email: cthornton@local286.org

City: Austin

State: Texas

Your Comments About the Staff Report, Including Recommendations Supported or Opposed: I appreciate the Commission's time and diligence spent in reviewing the TSBPE but disagree with how to fix the problems. Texas recognized the need and importance of regulating the plumbing industry early on and by putting the Plumbing Board under the umbrella of other licensing within TDLR is not going to fix the problem, it may very well compound it. No one appreciates good plumbing systems, it is taken for granted that when we open the tap clean drinking water will come out and when we flush the toilet all the waste will go away never to be seen again. We take all of this for granted because we have good plumbing systems that require minimal maintenance that were installed by licensed and trained individuals. If we go backwards, and lessen the requirements to become a plumber then we run the risk of increased sickness in our society and we may not even realize the source. It is said that good plumbing has saved many more lives than modern medicine has, just by keeping drinking water clean and disposing of waste in a sanitary method. That being said, yes we are in boom times and there is a shortage of Plumbers and the Board is way behind on testing them. Give the Board a chance to stay on it's own and fix the problems before we take a drastic step of putting the Board under another agency thinking it will fix the problem.

Any Alternative or New Recommendations on This Agency: Keep the Plumbing Board as its own agency, modernize the testing process by offering the written portion electronically at 3rd party testing centers but keep the practical exam. Thank you.

My Comment Will Be Made Public: I agree