

**From:** [Sunset Advisory Commission](#)  
**To:** [Janet Wood](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Public/After Publication)  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 27, 2018 3:02:13 PM

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

From: sunset@sunset.texas.gov <sunset@sunset.texas.gov> On Behalf Of Texas Sunset Commission  
Sent: Tuesday, November 27, 2018 2:57 PM  
To: Sunset Advisory Commission <Sunset@sunset.texas.gov>  
Subject: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Public/After Publication)

Agency: TEXAS BOARD PROFESSIONAL LAND SURVEYING

First Name: Douglas

Last Name: Turner

Title: Registered Professional Land Surveyor

Organization you are affiliated with: IDS Engineering Group

Email: dturner@idseg.com

City: Houston

State: Texas

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

I am in a somewhat unique position in that I was licensed by this agency in August of 1981 and served on the Texas Board of Professional Land Surveying (TBPLS) from 1999-2011 (chairing the Board for 5 of those years). As a Registered Professional Land Surveyor practicing in the State of Texas and former Board member, I believe strongly that a board made up of Professional Surveyors and public members is the best means of regulating the profession of land surveying to protect the health, safety, welfare, and property of the citizens of Texas.

While I agree that the areas of concern listed in the Sunset Staff Report seem serious, I believe (based on my experience with this Board) that the shortcomings listed in the report can and should be addressed within the TBPLS as it exists, an independent licensing agency. A combined board, as proposed by the Sunset Staff Report, is not adequate to properly regulate the practice of Land Surveying in Texas in that the majority of the combined board would be composed of members from a different profession. Land Surveying is a distinct profession and Texas has a unique and intricate framework of land title and tenure. Protecting real estate holdings, the bedrock of our state's economy and many of our citizen's most important investment, requires a regulatory board made up of subject matter experts and knowledgeable public members.

This letter is written in strong opposition to the proposed combination of the land surveying and engineering boards. Both professions require diligent and expert regulation that a combined board can't provide.

Any Alternative or New Recommendations on This Agency: The Governor, in November, appointed two new licensed surveyor members, and another licensed member is due to be appointed after January 31, 2019 when his term expires.

As a Registered Professional Land Surveyor and former member of the TBPLS, I recommend that the Texas Board

of Professional Land Surveying be given the opportunity to address the concerns listed in the Sunset Staff Report and remain an independent licensing agency.

My Comment Will Be Made Public: I agree