From: Sunset Advisory Commission

To: <u>Janet Wood</u>

Subject: FW: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Public/After Publication)

Date: Tuesday, April 03, 2018 8:00:23 AM

----Original Message-----

From: sundrupal@capitol.local [mailto:sundrupal@capitol.local]

Sent: Monday, April 02, 2018 10:10 PM To: Sunset Advisory Commission

Subject: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Public/After Publication)

Agency: TEXAS STATE BOARD SOCIAL WORKER EXAMINERS

First Name: Culle

Last Name: VandeGarde

Title: LCSW

Organization you are affiliated with: NASW/ Bluffview Counseling Services

Email: culle@bluffviewcounseling.com

City: Dallas

State: Texas

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

I support the creation of the BHEC through the transformation of the psychology board I oppose the classification of professional appointees on the BHEC as ex officious members The TSBSWE is not operating efficiently nor effectively under HHSC Each board must remain independent under the BHEC The TSBSWE must have more money to operate effectively I have to tell you I have lived in Denver and Kansas City prior to Dallas and I was appalled by your states licensing process! It's a disservice to clinicians, the public and your employees! I lost 6 months of employment because I couldn't get licensed via reciprocity due to being told it would take 4 to 8 weeks. I sold my house, moved trusting what I'd been told over the phone. What a nightmare! Not only was there no office to drive and meet/ speak with someone in person (as there is in Denver, Topeka, KS and JeffersonCity, MO) but then I got the run around for 4 weeks until I finally got an answer which was how back logged they were. I got my license 6 months later! What a hot mess and it just seems to be the norm here. You all should be ashamed of yourselves! Who are you accountable to? Where are your checks and balances?

Any Alternative or New Recommendations on This Agency: The BHEC should be made up of nine voting members - one professional and one public from each of the 4 boards, with a final public member appointed by the governor. You need to have an actual office in Austin where Licensed professionals and potential licensees can actually drive to and meet with a person face to face to get questions answered! Be accountable! Give the profession some dignity and respect! Times Up!!

My Comment Will Be Made Public: I agree