

**From:** [Sunset Advisory Commission](#)  
**To:** [Janet Wood](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Public/After Publication)  
**Date:** Friday, June 17, 2016 3:26:25 PM

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

From: sundrupal@capitol.local [<mailto:sundrupal@capitol.local>]  
Sent: Friday, June 17, 2016 2:17 PM  
To: Sunset Advisory Commission  
Subject: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Public/After Publication)

Agency: TEXAS BOARD PHYSICAL THERAPY EXAMINERS

First Name: Matthew

Last Name: Walk

Title: Dr.

Organization you are affiliated with:

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City: San Antonio

State: Texas

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

I am a physical therapist who has been practicing in Texas for 13 years. I am also on faculty as a professor of physical therapy at the University of the Incarnate Word. Although, I speak only for myself in my comments below.

1. I SUPPORT the Commission's recommendation to discontinue the registration of PT and OT facilities. I do agree that there should be laws in place to prosecute entities that provide, or claim to provide, PT and/or OT services illegally. However, the facility registration requirement does not seem to do this effectively.
2. I SUPPORT the Commission's recommendation to join the national licensure compact. This is a common sense solution to allow clinicians from neighboring states to facilitate improved access to services near our state borders. This would also allow increased access to clinical support in disaster relief situations, as well as expert consultation from out of state PTs. All PTs receive their license after passing the same national board exam, so the arbitrary geographical limitation does nothing to protect Texan residents.
3. I am OPPOSED to the Commission's recommendation to discontinue the board's authority to delegate responsibility of approving continuing education and continuing competence. This is a rather large responsibility for the agency, and unless they receive a considerable increase in funding and staff who are dedicated to this specific task, I do not have confidence that high standards for approval that the TPTA has set will continue. I do not want an agency that would rubber stamp any non-evidence based course that crossed it's desk. Assessment of continued competence and the quality of courses that provide this competence would require consultation from a large team of PTs and would therefor be best delegated to an entity that has a cadre of PTs on hand.
4. I SUPPORT the Commissions recommendation to continue the Texas Board of PT and OT Examiners.

Any Alternative or New Recommendations on This Agency: I am unsure if this is in the Commission's purview, but if it is, I recommend the Commission consider updating language in the PT practice act limiting Texans' access to physical therapists only to those with a referral from another provider. Texas is one of only 7 states that still has this obsolete restriction. It is important that Texas keep up with the national standard of health care.

My Comment Will Be Made Public: I agree