From: Sunset Advisory Commission

To: <u>Janet Wood</u>

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

**Date:** Wednesday, April 04, 2018 7:49:17 AM

----Original Message-----

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

Sent: Tuesday, April 03, 2018 6:13 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: Lily

Last Name: Wang

Title:

Organization you are affiliated with: NASW

Email:

City: Austin

State: Texas

Your Comments About the Staff Report, Including Recommendations Supported or Opposed: I support the creation of the Behavioral Health Executive Council (BHEC) through the transformation of the psychology board. The TSBSWE is not operating efficiently and effectively under HHSC. As a soon-to-be licensed LMSW, the entire process of trying to get licensed took an unnecessarily long time. For example, I sent in my paperwork to be approved for the licensing exam in early January; I did not receive approval to sit for the exam until late March. To hear from my colleagues that license renewal and supervision plans could take more than three times as long is disheartening. The TSBSWE must have more money to operate effectively or its social workers and their clients will suffer. Additionally, I oppose the classification of professional appointees on the BHEC as ex officio members -- not having the power to vote is a huge power imbalance. I also believe each board must remain independent under the BHEC.

Any Alternative or New Recommendations on This Agency: The BHEC should be made up of 9 voting members -one public and one professional from each of the 4 boards with a final public member appointed by the Governor.
This structure has proven to be very effective for other regulatory entities such as the Occupational Therapy and
Physical Therapy boards. Additionally, this model would allow for professionals from each practice to both offer
input and hold voting power.

My Comment Will Be Made Public: I agree