

From: [Sunset Advisory Commission](#)
To: [Janet Wood](#)
Subject: FW: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Public/After Publication)
Date: Monday, November 26, 2018 11:26:15 AM

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

From: sunset@sunset.texas.gov <sunset@sunset.texas.gov> On Behalf Of Texas Sunset Commission
Sent: Monday, November 26, 2018 10:59 AM
To: Sunset Advisory Commission <Sunset@sunset.texas.gov>
Subject: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Public/After Publication)

Agency: TEXAS%20BOARD%20PROFESSIONAL%20LAND%20SURVEYING

First Name: Patti

Last Name: Williams

Title: Professor of Surveying and Geomatics, RPLS

Organization you are affiliated with: The Partnership Program in Surveying and Geomatics, Tyler Junior College and The University of Texas at Tyler

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City: Tyler

State: Texas

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

I am a Registered Professional Land Surveyor practicing in the State of Texas, 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. I have served the past two years on a Future of Surveying task force for the National Council of Engineering Examiners and feel the community of licensed surveyors throughout the nation would view this as a step backward. The needs of regulating the profession are unique and separate from engineering. Texas is considered the most difficult state to practice in because of the legal principles developed through its wonderful history-Spanish, Mexican, French, Republic and now State government. The attention needed to address the issues identified by the staff report cannot be managed by a combined board with a divided focus.

The areas of concern listed in the Sunset Staff Report can and should be addressed within TBPLS. A combined board made up of a majority of board members from a different profession as proposed by the Sunset Staff Report is not adequate to properly regulate the practice of Land Surveying in Texas.

Texas surveyors study more boundary law than any law student in any law school in Texas and the people of Texas deserve for them to be regulated by a board that understands their issues. Land Surveying is a distinct profession and Texas has a unique and complicated 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 public members.

Please hear my strong opposition to the proposed combination of the land surveying and engineering boards. Both of these professions require diligent and expert regulation that a combined board can't provide.

Any Alternative or New Recommendations on This Agency: I am dismayed by the recommendation to combine

boards and 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