

**From:** [Sunset Advisory Commission](#)  
**To:** [Janet Wood](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Public/After Publication)  
**Date:** Monday, November 26, 2018 11:38:45 AM

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

From: sunset@sunset.texas.gov <sunset@sunset.texas.gov> On Behalf Of Texas Sunset Commission  
Sent: Monday, November 26, 2018 11:29 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: Keith

Last Name: Zimmerman

Title: Senior Project Manager

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City: Bryan

State: Texas

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

As 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.

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.

The disciplines are very different when it comes to understanding boundary law and the means in which boundaries are to be reestablished or established.

As our populations grow and the demand for land and the value of land continues to rise, the laws and practices to oversee this will always be best handled by board that their specific purpose is to protect the public and the regulations of surveying the boundaries of those lands. The board will be better able to do this because its interest will always be focused on the public and the specific guidelines that required to survey. I am also licensed in the state of Mississippi and the board in Mississippi is combined with the number of engineers outnumbering the number of surveyors giving the surveyors unequal representation. Dual registrants more times than not, tend to lead toward thinking from the engineer side instead of from just as a land surveyor. We have had so many things come before the board in Mississippi that was tabled by the engineers and was only opened back up when it started to interfere with engineering. The two professions respect each other and work well together, but 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 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