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PACT Recommendations to Sunset Commission

1. **PACT supports the recommendations to establish the State Supported Living Center Closure Commission to develop a plan in closure and consolidation of the 13 State Supported Living Centers (SSLC).**
2. **With the consolidation of the SSLCs the SSLC Direct Care Workers/Personal Attendants can be transitioned into the Home and Community-based Service Programs. With the aging of the baby boom generation, the aging of unpaid family caregivers, and the increasing number of people with disabilities who need long term services and supports in the community recruitment and retention of personal attendants must be a priority.**
3. **Portability of Benefits of SSLC Direct Care Workers**
The SSLC direct care workers that choose to transition into the home and community-based service programs workforce should retain all benefits that they were receiving within the SSLC. This will boost the pool of community attendants while minimizing the negative impact to the local economies during consolidation and closures of the SSLCs.
4. **Use of Functional Assessments**
The state needs to use functional assessments not diagnosis in order to reform the delivery of the Long Term Services and Supports System.
5. **The need for adequate reimbursement rates should flow across all programs, not just for people with more complex needs or a diagnosis of IDD. Texas reimbursement rates are among the lowest in the nation.**