Timothy Edwards

I am the guardian for my sister Joanna Edwards, long-time resident at Austin State Supported Living Center. Our family is very grateful for the quality care that Joanna has received through the years and for the compassion of the State of Texas through DADS for those like my sister who are not able to care for their own needs independently.

She is also not able to speak on her own behalf, so I speak to represent her interests. Joanna's needs will best be met through the Supported Living Center approach and it is my desire that she will always have such a facility provided through our State. She is facing displacement from Austin SSLC, but her needs can be met by transfer to another SSLC and we are planning for this. We would certainly prefer that she remain at Austin if the current downsizing was not being taken.

My greatest concern regarding the Sunset Commission is that any state agency could be closed without action by the State Legislature. The voice of the people will only be heard if the Sunset Recommendation is rejected. My sister needs a voice to be heard and we need our Legislature to be that accountability!