From: <u>Texas Sunset Advisory Commission</u>
To: <u>Sunset Advisory Commission</u>

**Subject:** Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Private/Before Publication)

**Date:** Wednesday, November 13, 2024 11:54:25 PM

Submitted on Wed, 11/13/2024 - 22:36

Submitted by: Visitor

Submitted values are:

# Choose the agency that you would like to provide input about

Texas Department of Criminal Justice

#### **Public Comments**

1

#### **First Name**

Norma

#### **Last Name**

Ortiz

#### Title

Advocate

## Organization you are affiliated with

Excel

#### **Email**

# City

San Antonio

### State

Texas

### **Your Comments or Concerns**

As an advocate, I strive to provide the best advocacy for women. We believe in equality for women. Unfortunately, TDCJ does not provide women the same opportunities as men in the ares of education, programming, rehabilitation, vocational, and religious programs. For example, men are able to the use Pell Grant for education, women are not give that opportunity. Men have more vocational classes and faith based ministries. As society has changed, we see an increase in women inmates, therefore, we need to prepare them to be positive citizens when they return to society. The TDCJ mission statement points that that they want to promote positive change in offenders behaviors and reintegrate into society. How can this be done if women are not give the same opportunities as men.

## **Your Proposed Solution**

TDCJ education should be able to provide the information for women to receive the Pell Grant. In additional, women should be given more vocational and rehabilitation programs.

# **My Comments Will Be Made Public**

Yes