

From: [Sunset Advisory Commission](#)
To: [Janet Wood](#)
Subject: FW: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Private/Before Publication)
Date: Tuesday, November 19, 2024 12:23:56 PM

From: Texas Sunset Advisory Commission <sunset.website@brightleafgroup.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 19, 2024 10:20 AM
To: Sunset Advisory Commission <sunset@sunset.texas.gov>
Subject: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Private/Before Publication)

Submitted on Tue, 11/19/2024 - 08:48

Submitted by: Visitor

Submitted values are:

Choose the agency that you would like to provide input about
[Board of Pardons and Paroles](#)

Public Comments

1

First Name

Jennifer

Last Name

Troell

Title

Need for Clear and Fair Guidelines

Organization you are affiliated with

Myself

Email

City

New Braunfels

State

Texas

Your Comments or Concerns

I wish to add my voice to those that have expressed to the Sunset Advisory Commission that the parole review process seems arbitrary and expectations are unclear. Incarcerated individuals who consistently strive for self improvement, go above and beyond the ITP requirements, and have clear plans and goals are frequently denied release based on two static factors that they can do nothing about: the nature of the offense, and a history of substance abuse. Denials based on factors they cannot change, made in complete disregard of all efforts to change what they can, destroy hope and lower morale not just for the inmate, but for their families as well.

Your Proposed Solution

Parole determinations should not be made based on the crime for which a person has already been sentenced. Instead, determinations should be based on measurable change and demonstrated efforts at self improvement. Reasons for denial should be actionable and expectations should be clear.

If an inmate has a history of substance abuse, this factor should lead to the placement of that inmate in rehabilitative programming as soon as possible. Programming should not be withheld until after parole has been granted. If the possibility of continuing substance use is a concern, give them UAs before using their past substance abuse history as a reason to keep them incarcerated.

My Comments Will Be Made Public

Yes