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November 25, 2008

Mr. Joey Longley, Director  
Sunset Advisory Commission  
P. O. Box 13066  
Austin, Texas 78711

Dear Mr. Joey Longley:

The Sunset Commission staff completed their analysis of the Texas Juvenile Probation Commission and Texas Youth Commission and released their recommendations on November 11, 2008; and The Sunset Commission staff recommends the elimination of the Texas Juvenile Probation Commission and the Texas Youth Commission and the creation of a new agency to be called the Texas Juvenile Justice Department effective September 30, 2009. I reviewed the recommendations contained in the Sunset Commission staff report regarding the elimination of the Texas Youth Commission and the Texas Juvenile Probation Commission. I believe that the Texas Juvenile Probation Commission effectively and efficiently fulfills the mandates of their assigned mission.

I also believe, TYC is in need of major improvements, and the report does offer many ideas that will improve Juvenile Justice. It is not necessary to diminish the guarantee of local control afforded by separate agencies. However, I strongly disagree with the recommendation of the Sunset Commission staff, targeting the Texas Juvenile Probation Commission for elimination and aggressively support the Texas Juvenile Probation Commission remaining a separate agency with oversight of the one hundred and sixty-six Juvenile Probation Departments in Texas.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "E. Arredondo", is written over the typed name.

Eddie Arredondo  
Burnet County Attorney

Burnet, Texas 78611