

**From:** [Sunset Advisory Commission](#)  
**To:** [Janet Wood](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Public/After Publication)  
**Date:** Wednesday, April 11, 2018 2:32:13 PM

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-----Original Message-----

From: sundrupal@capitol.local [<mailto:sundrupal@capitol.local>]  
Sent: Wednesday, April 11, 2018 1:52 PM  
To: Sunset Advisory Commission  
Subject: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Public/After Publication)

Agency: TEXAS STATE BOARD SOCIAL WORKER EXAMINERS

First Name: Cynthia

Last Name: Collen

Title: LCSW

Organization you are affiliated with: Private Practice

Email:

City: Austin

State: Texas

Your Comments About the Staff Report, Including Recommendations Supported or Opposed:

I support the recommendations in the 2018 Staff Report.

However, there is an urgent need NOW for increased funding for additional staff/resources to address the obscene length of time it takes to process license and supervision submissions. For example, it took 17 weeks for to fully process my LMSW to LCSW application which in turn created financial distress as I made significantly less money as an LMSW than can as an LCSW.

Any Alternative or New Recommendations on This Agency: While the Staff Report recommendations are meant to be implemented in 2020, there is an urgent need NOW to increase staffing and resources to address the backlog of paperwork

for licensees. Social Workers, on the whole, make less than other behavioral health providers and this is understood as part of our desired profession. However, the bureaucratic delays in processing applications makes our situation more dire as it imposes undue financial distress on applicants waiting for their applications to be processed. While the Sunset Commission may not be the right place to address immediate staffing concerns, calls to increase funding for the behavioral health boards have gone unanswered and this seems to be the only current avenue to voice our feedback. PLEASE HEAR OUR VOICES AS WE NEED IMMEDIATE ACTION TO INCREASE FUNDING AT THE TSBSWE TO ADDRESS CURRENT UNACCEPTABLE APPLICATION PROCESSING TIMES OF THREE - SIX MONTHS.

My Comment Will Be Made Public: I agree