

**From:** [Sunset Advisory Commission](#)  
**To:** [Janet Wood](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Public/After Publication)  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 15, 2016 9:03:19 AM

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

From: sundrupal@capitol.local [<mailto:sundrupal@capitol.local>]  
Sent: Tuesday, November 15, 2016 8:18 AM  
To: Sunset Advisory Commission  
Subject: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Public/After Publication)

Agency: TEXAS STATE BOARD SOCIAL WORKER EXAMINERS

First Name: Robert

Last Name: Dole

Title: LCSW

Organization you are affiliated with:

Email:

City: Austin

State: Texas

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

I write about the Texas State Board of Social Work Examiners portion of the report. I agree that there is much wrong with agency as it currently stands in DSHS.

I am opposed to transferring the Board to TDLR as that agency is already tasked with too many other regulatory functions.

I agree that the complaint process needs to allow for resolution within 90 days of receipt of the complaint. One aspect of empowering staff to dismiss spurious complaints or complaints that do not meet a threshold of harm to individuals is a good one.

I agree that making all of the boards to function in an advisory manner would also be helpful in resolving complaints.

I agree that there needs to be background checks and checks about founded complaints in other jurisdictions.

Any Alternative or New Recommendations on This Agency:

I recommend instead that the Social Work Board be its own autonomous board for a variety of reasons:

1. Social Workers as a profession are charged to work with most vulnerable members of society in a variety of settings. Additionally, the mission of social work as a profession is to work with the poor and disenfranchised. Though part of social work services is related to therapy, it makes no sense to lump social work as a profession with LPC's and LMFT's whose role and function is to provide counseling/therapeutic services.

2. Because Social Workers work with the most vulnerable individuals in society they need a separate board with expertise associated with social work practice and social work values. Social work as a profession has the most stringent code of conduct compared to other professions.

My Comment Will Be Made Public: I agree