From: Sunset Advisory Commission

To: <u>Janet Wood</u>

Subject: FW: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Public/After Publication)

Date: Monday, November 14, 2016 4:14:11 PM

----Original Message-----

From: sundrupal@capitol.local [mailto:sundrupal@capitol.local]

Sent: Monday, November 14, 2016 4:14 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: Brian

Last Name: Halderman, LMSW

Title:

Organization you are affiliated with:

Email:

City: San Antonio

State: Texas

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

I strongly urge that the state to continue the autonomous regulation of Licensed Social Workers. I oppose the recommendation to relegate the Texas State Board of Social Worker Examiners to advisory status under the overextended Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation (TDLR). Oversight of mental health professionals is beyond the scope of TDLR. None of the occupations regulated by TDLR work with fragile individuals struggling to overcome devastating psycho, social, emotional and physical challenges. A move to TDLR will not resolve access to care or regulatory challenges.

Any Alternative or New Recommendations on This Agency: I recommend that the state allocate licensing fee revenue to directly support the regulatory functions of the Texas State Board of Social Worker Examiners and that the the structure be retained with full autonomy of the Texas State Board of Social Worker Examiners. Additionally I strongly believe that the Board should be staffed by Licensed Social Workers who are familiar with the profession and the ethical challenges faced by those in the field.

My Comment Will Be Made Public: I agree