-----Original Message-----From: sundrupal@capitol.local [<u>mailto:sundrupal@capitol.local</u>] Sent: Monday, November 14, 2016 3:39 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: Erica

Last Name: Harris

Title: LCSW

Organization you are affiliated with: NASW

Email:

City: Sachse

State: Texas

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

I oppose the recommendation to relegate the Texas State Board of Social Workers to advisory status under the overextended Texas Department of Licensing and Regulations (TDLR). Oversight of the mental health professionals is beyond the scope of TDLR. None of the occupations regulated by the 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.Continue the autonomous regulation of Licensed Social Workers. Allocate licensing fee revenue to directly support the regulatory functions of the Texas State Board of Social Work Examiners.

Retain the structure and autonomy of the Texas State Board of Social Worker Examiners. Setting and enforcing clear, ethical training and practice standards for Social Work professionals can only be accomplished by professionally specialized and independent licensing boards. The Code of Conduct of Ethics for Social Workers is unique to mental and requires peer to peer review in rule making and the complaint process.

Any Alternative or New Recommendations on This Agency: None

My Comment Will Be Made Public: I agree