

From: [Sunset Advisory Commission](#)
To: [Janet Wood](#)
Subject: FW: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Public/After Publication)
Date: Tuesday, November 15, 2016 9:45:05 AM

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

From: sundrupal@capitol.local [<mailto:sundrupal@capitol.local>]
Sent: Tuesday, November 15, 2016 9:43 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: Steven

Last Name: Jacobson

Title: MR

Organization you are affiliated with:

Email:

City: Denton

State: Texas

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

1. I agree with many of the findings of the report and the conclusion that the Boards do not appear able to resolve these problems themselves.
2. I believe that mental health services are too sensitive and pose unique challenges and should not be lumped under TDLR 3. While the TDLR administrative model should inform application and complaint procedures for the board overseeing mental health professionals, TDLR is not equipped to regulate mental and behavioral health professionals.
4. Better to achieve sunset goals by combining all of the mental health boards.

-Setting and enforcing clear, ethical training and practice standards for mental health professionals can only be accomplished by a professionally specialized licensing board. Best practice to protect consumers is to have an independent, professionally specialized board with public and professional members that regulate mental health care.

Any Alternative or New Recommendations on This Agency: Combine all behavioral sciences licenses (LPC, SW, LMFT, psychology, LCDC, and LSOTP; possibly others) into one board to achieve goals identified by staff. There is no need for multiple boards to be writing nearly identical rules, and there is significant cost savings and have one unified set of rules. Such a larger agency could still have specialty rules for the different sub-groups of mental health professionals, such as Licensed Sex Offender

Treatment, but those would just layer on top of the common base rules.

My Comment Will Be Made Public: I agree