

**From:** [Sunset Advisory Commission](#)  
**To:** [Janet Wood](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Public/After Publication)  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 15, 2016 7:48:00 AM

---

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

From: sundrupal@capitol.local [<mailto:sundrupal@capitol.local>]  
Sent: Tuesday, November 15, 2016 1:46 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: Harry

Last Name: Livesay

Title: Licensed Clinical Social Worker

Organization you are affiliated with: the people of Texas

Email:

City: Georgetown

State: Texas

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

I support the autonomous regulation of Licensed Social Workers in Texas and I strongly oppose any recommendation to relegate the Texas State Board of Social Worker Examiners to advisory status under an over-extended Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation (TDLR).

Oversight of mental health professionals is not and should not be the authority of the TDLR. Social Workers, like Nurses and Physicians, work with fragile individuals struggling to overcome complex psycho, social, emotional and physical challenges. TDLR does not have the experience or understanding of delivery of Social Work services, our historical role as caregivers or our ethical standards. The people of Texas are better served by our profession having oversight of itself via a independent regulatory agency such as the Texas Board of Social Work Examiners supported by direct fee revenue to support its regulatory functions.

I strongly support retaining 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 and Code of Ethics for Social Workers is unique to mental health and requires peer to peer review in rule making and the complaint process.

Any Alternative or New Recommendations on This Agency: Allow the TDLR to serve as administrative support for these Boards allowing for cost saving for processing fees, mailing, copying services, etc.

My Comment Will Be Made Public: I agree