

From: [Sunset Advisory Commission](#)
To: [Janet Wood](#)
Subject: FW: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Public/After Publication)
Date: Wednesday, November 16, 2016 4:48:16 PM

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

From: sundrupal@capitol.local [<mailto:sundrupal@capitol.local>]
Sent: Wednesday, November 16, 2016 4:30 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: Lynn

Last Name: McLean

Title: Licensed Clinical Social Worker and Supervisor

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City: Houston

State: Texas

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

I am writing to request that the Commission continue the autonomous regulation of Licensed Social Workers, and specifically to oppose the recommendation to relegate the Texas State Board of Social Worker Examiners to advisory status under the over-extended Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation (TDLR).

Texas social workers assist a wide array of individuals who are vulnerable. The 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.

I am also requesting that the Commission allocate social work licensing fee revenue to directly support the regulatory functions of the Texas State Board of Social Worker Examiners, so that our profession's fees go directly to support the board that regulates our work and protects and guides us as professionals and our clients, who are some of the state's most vulnerable residents.

I am also requesting that the Commission 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 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.

As a supervisor and a continuing education provider for all masters-level counseling professionals in Texas, I am familiar with the codes of ethics for professional counselors and marriage and family therapists along with social workers. The Texas State Board of Social Work Examiners has done an exemplary job, and in my opinion, the most

thorough, of any other licensing board in Texas. We as social workers and our clients benefit as a result.

Any Alternative or New Recommendations on This Agency: None at this time.

My Comment Will Be Made Public: I agree