

From: [Sunset Advisory Commission](#)
To: [Janet Wood](#)
Subject: FW: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Public/After Publication)
Date: Monday, November 14, 2016 3:32:59 PM

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

From: sundrupal@capitol.local [<mailto:sundrupal@capitol.local>]
Sent: Monday, November 14, 2016 3:29 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: Michelle

Last Name: Zadrozny

Title:

Organization you are affiliated with:

Email:

City: Austin

State: Texas

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

Please continue the autonomous regulation of Licensed Social Workers. We have a Code of Ethics that separates our profession from others, and are very different from LPCs and LMFTs. Here are my reasons:

1) I 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). I recently took my exam for the LCSW and aside from the 2 years it took to actually pay for supervision and obtain my counseling hours/experience, I literally spent up to 6 months waiting for 1) approval of my supervision plan (3 months), submitting my verification paperwork to get permission to take the exam and obtain my license (3+ months). This is unnecessary anxiety - the system is paper-based and there is no accounting for paperwork submitted & lost paperwork by the board.

2) Furthermore, 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. Allocate licensing fee revenue to directly support the regulatory functions of the Texas State Board of Social Worker Examiners.

3) 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.

Any Alternative or New Recommendations on This Agency: Please make sure that you have licensed clinical social workers on the sunset review/commission to ensure that you are making changes consistent with how social work is actually practiced in our various licensing structures (LCSW, LMSW, BSW, LMSW-AP, etc)

My Comment Will Be Made Public: I agree