

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH BOARDS

TEXAS STATE BOARD OF EXAMINERS OF MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPISTS

TEXAS STATE BOARD OF EXAMINERS OF PROFESSIONAL COUNSELORS

TEXAS STATE BOARD OF SOCIAL WORKER EXAMINERS

H.B. 2898 Gonzales (Hinojosa) — Not Enacted

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House Bill 2898, the bill that contained the Sunset Commission's statutory recommendations for the marriage and family therapists, professional counselors, and social worker boards, including continuing the regulation of these professions, did not pass. However, the Sunset Commission did adopt several nonstatutory management actions the boards must implement.

Enforcement

- Ensure each board develops policies for prioritizing complaints and that staff prioritizes complaint investigations based on these policies. (Management action – nonstatutory)
- Direct each board to develop policies to settle cases informally. (Management action – nonstatutory)
- Ensure each board updates its enforcement plan, including appropriate penalty matrices. (Management action – nonstatutory)

Licensing

- Direct the professional counselor board to remove unnecessary and restrictive education requirements for applicants for licensure. (Management action – nonstatutory)
- Direct each board to enhance the continuing education provider registry and comply with statute by approving continuing education courses. (Management action – nonstatutory)
- Direct each board to reduce the burden of supervision requirements on licensees, supervisors, and staff by setting clearer expectations for supervision and replacing the onerous verification process. (Management action – nonstatutory)
- Direct each board to fully implement expedited processing for military applications and renewals. (Management action – nonstatutory)
- Direct each board to standardize conditions for inactive licensees to reflect best practices. (Management action – nonstatutory)