

TEXAS STATE BOARD OF EXAMINERS OF PSYCHOLOGISTS

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

Staff Contact: Robert Romig

House Bill 2898, the bill that contained the Sunset Commission's statutory recommendations for the psychology board, including continuing the licensing and regulation of psychology, did not pass. However, the Sunset Commission did adopt several nonstatutory management actions the psychology board must implement.

Licensing

- Direct the psychology board to amend its rules to allow Licensed Specialists in School Psychology to practice in both public and private schools to increase access to psychological services. (Management action – nonstatutory)
- Direct the board to remove the burdensome and useless requirement for licensure applicants to submit letters of reference. (Management action – nonstatutory)

Enforcement

- Direct the board to prohibit a board member from participating in both the investigation and resolution of a complaint to promote impartiality and a fair enforcement process. (Management action – nonstatutory)

Practice of Psychology

- Direct the board to appoint a working group of stakeholders to develop at least three proposed definitions of the practice of psychology and provide them to the Legislature for consideration to address a recent court decision. The working group reported its proposed definitions to the Legislature in January 2017. (Management action – nonstatutory)
- Direct the board to evaluate all rules for potential anti-competitive effects and repeal rules susceptible to legal challenge. (Management action – nonstatutory)