

## *Texas State Board of Podiatry Examiners*

### **Board Members**

Ben Clark, Jr., Dallas, President  
 Preston Goforth, Temple, Vice President  
 Joseph Valenza, Austin  
 Thomas Garrison, Webster  
 Ana Laborde, San Antonio  
 Eugene Scioli, Lubbock  
 Rick Sorrells, Dallas  
 Betty Walker, Odessa  
 Peter Williams, San Antonio

### **Agency Functions**

The Texas State Board of Podiatry Examiners has the responsibility and authority to examine, license, and regulate the practice of podiatry in the state. The board's enabling act is a practice act in that it regulates the practice of podiatry and prohibits unlicensed individuals from engaging in the practice. The practice of podiatry involves the treatment of any disease, disorder, physical injury, deformity, or ailment of the human foot by any system or method. To fulfill its responsibilities, the board adopts rules regarding the practice of podiatry, determines the qualifications of applicants, administers the state portion of the podiatry examination, issues initial and renewal licenses, investigates complaints against licensees, and takes disciplinary action to enforce its enabling act.

### **Agency Funding**

	<b>FY 1992 Expended</b>	<b>FY 1993 Budgeted</b>
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	\$ 106,023	\$ 100,140
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Percent of General Revenue	0%	0%
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**Number of Positions  
(FY 1993)** 3 FTE

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## **Commission Findings and Recommendations**

The sunset review of the health care licensing boards included determination of the continued need for the regulation of health care professionals carried out by the boards, whether benefits could be achieved by changing the organizational structure used to carry out the regulation, and whether statutory changes are needed to improve the regulatory ability of the boards under review.

### ***Need for Regulation***

The Sunset Commission concluded that the current regulation of podiatry was appropriate and should be continued.

### ***Reorganization Alternatives***

The Sunset Commission concluded that the current independent agency structure used to regulate podiatry was appropriate and recommended that the Texas State Board of Podiatry Examiners be continued.

### ***Major Recommendations***

After determining the need for regulation and the appropriate organizational structure, the Sunset Commission adopted a number of standard recommendations to be applied to this agency and all other health care licensing agencies under review. These are set out elsewhere. The commission did not develop any additional recommendations that specifically relate to the board.

### ***Fiscal Impact***

No fiscal impact is anticipated as a result of the recommendations.

No change in FTE.

### ***Complete List of Recommendations***

1. Require that fees be set by the board as necessary to cover the cost of regulation.
2. Require that all licensing examinations be validated.
3. Authorize the board to issue temporary and inactive licenses.

4. Require mandatory continuing education for all licensees.
5. Standardize the enforcement process of the board and provide adequate enforcement authority.
6. Establish a standard approach for licensing out-of-state practitioners coming into Texas.
7. Require training for new board members of the agency.
8. Across-the-board recommendations. (These are standard recommendations placed in the statutes of all agencies under sunset review.)

