

# **SUNSET COMMISSION DECISIONS**



**TEXAS STATE BOARD OF EXAMINERS  
OF PSYCHOLOGISTS**

**May 2004**

## **AGENCY INFORMATION**

## Agency at a Glance

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The mission of the Texas State Board of Examiners of Psychologists is to protect the public by ensuring that those who provide psychological services are qualified, competent, and adhere to established professional standards. The Legislature created the Board in 1969 to regulate the profession of psychology. To accomplish its mission, the Board:

- licenses qualified psychologists, provisionally licensed psychologists, psychological associates, and specialists in school psychology;
- ensures compliance with the Psychologists' Licensing Act and Board rules by investigating and resolving complaints alleging illegal or incompetent practice of psychology, and by taking disciplinary action when necessary; and
- provides information to licensees and the public.

### Key Facts

- **Funding.** In fiscal year 2003, the Board spent more than \$681,000, funded primarily from licensing and examination fees.
- **Staffing.** The Board has 14 staff, all based in Austin.
- **Licensing.** The Board regulates nearly 6,000 psychology professionals. In fiscal year 2003, the Board issued 416 new licenses and renewed 6,685 existing licenses. Approximately 1,000 people hold more than one type of license from the Board.
- **Enforcement.** The Board received 82 complaints from the public in fiscal year 2003. That same year, the Board initiated 75 complaints. The Board resolved 175 complaints in fiscal year 2003, with 17 resulting in sanctions against a licensee.



## **ISSUES / RECOMMENDATIONS**

# **Issue 1    The Board’s Oral Examination of Psychologist Candidates Has Minimal Public Protection Value.**

## **Recommendation**

### Change in Statute

#### **1.1    Discontinue the Board’s oral examination of candidates for licensure as psychologists.**

This recommendation would eliminate the requirement for a candidate to pass an oral examination to prove minimal competence in psychological practice. To be licensed, a candidate would still need to submit proof of completion of a doctorate degree in psychology, two years of supervised experience, passing scores from the national written and Texas jurisprudence exams, and three reference letters from licensed psychologists. If the Board needs additional information regarding candidates’ clinical abilities, it can update its referral letters to request additional information from individuals, such as supervisors or doctoral professors, who have had multiple opportunities to observe candidates.

## **Fiscal Implication**

Elimination of the oral exam would result in a slight loss to the General Revenue Fund. The Board raises about \$42,000 per fiscal year in examination fees, but the loss of these fees would be partially offset by savings associated with the discontinuation of the oral examination. Additionally, staff accrue and use 180 compensatory hours annually for time spent administering and organizing the oral exams. These staff hours could be redirected to other agency functions.

## **Responses**

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### **Agency**

The Board believes that eliminating the oral exam would prevent it from participating in a multi-state reciprocity agreement with eight other states, reducing mobility for licensees from these states. It would result in less protection for the public, because the oral exam is unique compared to other licensing requirements in ensuring that independent practitioners have basic skills to provide psychological services. The exam does not create an undue burden on candidates, and is no more subjective than any other type of licensing examination. In addition, a validity study and ongoing reviews of the exam by Board members indicate the exam’s fairness. The oral exam is a model for use by other states, and its elimination disallows the Board from continuing to serve as a model for the independent practice of psychology. Recent changes in Northrop Grumman’s database programming fees will have a greater cost impact on the recommendation to eliminate the oral exam than was originally anticipated. (Sherry L. Lee, Executive Director – Texas State Board of Examiners of Psychologists)

Staff Comment: No other licensing board in Texas uses an oral exam to assess competency. To prove minimal competence to engage in a profession, these other licensing boards instead rely on objective measures, such as educational and experience requirements, and the passage of national written and board jurisprudence exams. The Psychology Board requires these same objective measures – obtaining a doctorate in psychology, completing two years of supervised experience, and passing a national exam on the professional practice of psychology and a separate exam on state psychology laws – for license applicants before they may take the oral exam. The exam has not had an independent validity study, although a former Board member conducted an academic review of the exam in 1996. Finally, with just half of all states requiring an oral exam for psychology, elimination of the Board’s exam should not significantly reduce license mobility for psychologists wishing to practice either outside or within Texas.

**For**

Jonelle Ensign, M.S. – Licensed Specialist in School Psychology, Fort Worth

Betty Dawson, Secretary – Texas Association of Psychological Associates, Fort Worth

**Against**

David White, Executive Director – Texas Psychological Association, Austin

David Rudd, Ph.D., Board Member – Texas Psychological Association, Waco

Melba Vasquez, Ph.D., President Elect – Texas Psychological Association, Austin

**Recommended Action:** Adopt Recommendation 1.1.

**Commission Decision:** Adopted Recommendation 1.1.

## **Issue 2 The Psychological Associate Advisory Committee Is Not Needed to Advise the Board on the Interests of Psychological Associates in Texas.**

### **Recommendations**

#### Change in Statute

##### **2.1 Abolish the Psychological Associate Advisory Committee.**

This recommendation would abolish the Committee and remove the requirement for the Governor to appoint its members. The Governor would continue to appoint two psychological associate members to the Board, thus maintaining adequate representation of this license group. This recommendation would not change psychological associates' scope of practice, including the requirement for supervision by licensed psychologists.

##### **2.2 Require the Board to develop guidelines for the early involvement of stakeholders in its rulemaking process.**

The Board should provide psychology professionals in all license groups with the opportunity for a stronger role in the development of rules, before formal proposal in the *Texas Register*. This process could prove more effective in providing input to the Board than PAAC. Allowing stakeholders who will be most affected by a proposed rule to provide advice and opinions earlier in the process will result in better rules that take the perspectives of all license groups into consideration. One option for early involvement would be to include the proposed rules in the Board's newsletter to solicit input. Once the Board receives this input, it would still publish the proposed rules according to the Administrative Procedure Act, and allow the public an opportunity to oppose the rules or suggest alternatives during the comment period.

### **Fiscal Implication**

Abolishing the Committee will have no fiscal impact to the State. Since the Legislature already cut funding for travel reimbursements, the State will not save money by eliminating the Committee.

## **Responses**

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### **Agency**

The Board states that since the Legislature eliminated funding for the Advisory Committee's funding, the Committee is not funded to meet. The Board currently provides for early involvement of stakeholders through the printing of proposed rules in the *Texas Register*, and by its professional members soliciting input from various professional organizations to which they belong. Additionally, the Board believes it could develop guidelines to inform the public of pending rule changes through its Web site, but should not have to follow guidelines it would not have the opportunity to develop. (Sherry L. Lee, Executive Director – Texas State Board of Examiners of Psychologists)

Staff Comment: Recommendation 2.2 would require the Board to involve stakeholders in the development of rules before formal proposal in the *Texas Register*. Also, the Board would have the authority to develop its own guidelines for early involvement of stakeholders in its rulemaking process.

**For**

Jonelle Ensign, M.S. – Licensed Specialist in School Psychology, Fort Worth

Supports Recommendation 2.1 – David Rudd, Ph.D., Board Member – Texas Psychological Association, Austin; Melba Vasquez, Ph.D., President Elect – Texas Psychological Association, Austin

**Against**

Opposes Recommendation 2.1 – Betty Dawson, Secretary – Texas Association of Psychological Associates, Fort Worth; William Yeatts, M.A., L.P.A., L.S.S.P – Texas Association of Psychological Associates, Dallas

**Modifications**

1. Make the Psychological Associate Advisory Committee more effective by removing statutory limitations and giving the Committee more than an advisory function. (Betty Dawson, Secretary – Texas Association of Psychological Associates, Fort Worth)
2. Tie the elimination of the Psychological Associate Advisory Committee to the consolidation of the Psychology Board as part of a larger mental health licensing board that contains adequate representation of all licensee groups. (Geoffrey M. Shute, L.P.A. – Austin)

**Recommended Action:** Adopt Recommendations 2.1 and 2.2.

**Commission Decision:** Adopted Recommendations 2.1 and 2.2

## **Issue 3 Key Elements of the Board's Licensing and Regulatory Functions Do Not Conform to Commonly Applied Licensing Practices**

### **Recommendations**

#### **Licensing**

##### Change in Statute

#### **3.1 Allow qualified psychology professionals from other states to apply for licensure in Texas through a streamlined process without meeting minimum practice requirements, as long as they meet all other licensing requirements.**

This recommendation would prohibit the Board from placing additional burdens of proof on already-licensed applicants from other states who have not practiced for a specific length of time, but are authorized to practice independently. Psychology professionals in good standing with other boards should be allowed to seek a license in Texas through the same abbreviated process, regardless of the length of their practice experience. These applicants would still be required to meet Texas' licensing requirements, including passing the jurisprudence exam.

#### **3.2 Provide an exemption from the provisional license supervision requirement for applicants who are already licensed to practice independently in other states.**

Allowing qualified psychologists from other states to practice independently in Texas while the Board processes their applications would remove a barrier to entry into the profession. As long as a psychologist has a license to practice independently, is in good standing in another state, and meets Texas' licensing requirements, the Board should allow independent practice in Texas. Even without supervision, provisionally licensed psychologists still practice under the authority of the Board and are subject to enforcement action.

#### **3.3 Authorize the Board to accept all national credentials as proof of meeting basic licensing requirements.**

Authorizing the Board to accept all national credentials would streamline the licensing process for qualified psychology professionals moving to Texas from other states. Rather than requiring applicants to resubmit documentation of their education and experience, the Board would verify the information with the credentialing organization. However, the Board should reserve the right to reject an applicant's credentials if it feels the credentials do not provide proof of the minimum licensing requirements. Also, the Board would still require an out-of-state applicant to pass the jurisprudence exam.

#### **3.4 Authorize the Board to grant temporary privileges to psychology professionals from other states who wish to practice in Texas for a short, specified period of time.**

This recommendation would allow qualified psychology professionals from other states to practice temporarily in Texas. In addition, those receiving temporary privileges would be required to practice under supervision during their stay in Texas. In granting these temporary privileges, the Board should confirm that applicants are licensed in good standing in their state of origin, and specify the time period in which they may practice in Texas. In return, the Board may charge a processing fee to recover the administrative costs of providing temporary privileges. Having authority to grant privileges would allow the Board to have information about psychology professionals practicing in Texas for short terms and to take enforcement action should complaints arise.

### **3.5 Change the basis for the Board's late renewal penalties.**

This recommendation would require the Board to use the standard renewal fee as the basis for its late renewal penalties, rather than the cost of the exams required for licensure. For example, the Board would charge a person whose license has been expired for 90 days or less the standard renewal fee plus a penalty equal to one and a half times the renewal fee. For those whose licenses have been expired for more than 90 days, but less than one year, the Board would charge the standard renewal fee plus a penalty of twice the renewal fee. In calculating the late penalty, the Board would not include the \$200 professional fee assessed on psychologists.

#### **Enforcement**

##### Change in Statute

### **3.6 Require the Board to develop a system for complaint trend analysis.**

Requiring the Board to analyze the sources and types of complaints it receives should lead to stronger enforcement, a better understanding among licensees of the Board's law and rules, and greater administrative efficiency. The type of information the Board should analyze includes the reason or basis for each complaint; the outcome of each case and what type of disciplinary action was taken, if any; and the nature of and action taken on complaints that are nonjurisdictional.

### **3.7 Require the Board to investigate complaints according to risk.**

This recommendation would require the Board to handle complaints according to a more relevant priority system than currently used by the agency. Addressing complaints based on seriousness would ensure that the agency places attention on its most serious cases first and makes more effective use of its investigative resources.

### **3.8 Require the Board to include one of its public members in the informal settlement process.**

This recommendation would ensure that the Board includes at least one public member in its informal settlement conferences. These conferences help the Board determine whether a violation occurred and what action to take, and therefore should always include public membership to ensure consumer interests are properly represented in the enforcement process.

### **3.9 Require the Board to adopt a more specific schedule of sanctions in rule.**

This recommendation would require the Board to establish, in rule, a schedule to use when determining sanctions for violators, and to ensure that these actions relate appropriately to different violations of the Psychologists' Licensing Act and Board rules. The schedule should cover all possible sanctions, including administrative penalties for substantive complaints and the fee the Board often assesses to recover its administrative costs for conducting informal settlement conferences. In developing this schedule, the Board should take into account factors including the licensee's compliance history, seriousness of the violation, or the threat to the public's health and safety. By requiring the Board to adopt the schedule in rule, the public would have opportunity to comment and licensees would better understand the potential consequences of violations.

### **3.10 Authorize the Board to require restitution as part of the settlement process.**

Under this recommendation, the Board would be allowed to include restitution as a part of an agreed order reached in an informal settlement conference. Restitution authority would be limited to ordering a refund not to exceed the amount the complainant paid for their psychological services. Any restitution order would not include an estimation of other damages or harm. The restitution may be in lieu of or in addition to a separate Board order for sanctions against a licensee.

#### Management Action

### **3.11 The Board should post information about disciplinary orders and sanctions on its Web site in a format that consumers may access easily.**

Under this recommendation, consumers would have improved access to disciplinary information. Increasing accessibility could include creating a quarterly listing of all enforcement orders and sanctions arranged alphabetically by licensee name. In addition to helping the public, this listing may reduce the amount of time staff must dedicate to handling consumer inquiries.

### **3.12 The Board should provide explanations of its complaint dismissals to complainants and respondents.**

The Board should provide sufficient information to a complainant and respondent as to why it dismissed a complaint. Rather than simply stating that it found no violation, the Board should provide an explanation of its decision, including a summary of its findings.

#### **Fiscal Implication**

These recommendations would not have a significant fiscal impact to the State. The recommendations are procedural improvements that should require only minor costs to update the agency's licensing database. The cost of requiring the Board to check an out-of-state licensee's references before granting temporary privileges would be offset by a fee the Board would charge to cover its administrative costs. Changing the basis on which the agency assesses late renewal fees would result in lost revenue to the State of approximately \$5,000 annually.

## **Responses**

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### **Rec. 3.1 Equivalency**

#### **Agency Response**

The Board believes that supervision requirements differ from state to state, and that granting licensure to licensees from other states, regardless of experience, would significantly disadvantage in-state candidates for licensure. Absolute mobility would result in a "race to the bottom" in terms of basic licensing requirements. (Sherry L. Lee, Executive Director – Texas State Board of Examiners of Psychologists)

Staff Comment: While two years of supervised experience required by other states may not be exactly the same as the two years of experience required in Texas, the standards are similar enough to ensure psychologists from other states are sufficiently qualified to practice in Texas.

### **Rec. 3.2 Provisional License Supervision Exemption**

#### **Agency Response**

The Board believes that eliminating the supervision requirement for out-of-state licensed candidates would give them unfair employment advantage over in-state provisionally licensed psychologists required to be supervised by a licensed psychologist. (Sherry L. Lee, Executive Director – Texas State Board of Examiners of Psychologists)

### **Rec. 3.3 National Credentials**

#### **Agency Response**

The Board expresses concern that national credentials are not sufficient proof of meeting basic licensing requirements and cannot ensure public safety. (Sherry L. Lee, Executive Director – Texas State Board of Examiners of Psychologists)

Staff Comment: The Board already has statutory authority to accept two of three national psychology credentials. This provision would authorize, not require, the Board to accept additional credentials.

### **Rec. 3.4 Temporary Privileges**

#### **Agency Response**

The Board agrees that the ability to issue temporary privileges should be more clearly authorized in statute. However, the Board notes that requiring supervision for the temporary license would require the visiting psychologist to obtain written permission from clients to share information with the Texas supervisor. This provision is also inconsistent with the earlier provision to remove supervision for licensees from other states seeking permanent licensure in Texas. (Sherry L. Lee, Executive Director – Texas State Board of Examiners of Psychologists)

Staff Comment: The requirement that out-of-state psychologists with temporary privileges be supervised by a Texas psychologist was intended to provide additional assurance of their competence to practice in Texas. However, this same assurance of competence can be achieved by having a resident practicing Texas psychologist recommend that the out-of-state psychologist be granted permission to practice. The Texas psychologist would be associated with the out-of-state psychologist while practicing in Texas, without requiring a supervisory relationship.

### **Rec. 3.5 Late Renewal Penalties**

#### **Agency Response**

The Board did not comment on this recommendation.

### **Rec. 3.6 Complaint Trend Analysis**

#### **Agency Response**

The Board finds that the nature and complexity of the complaints it receives do not lend themselves to trend analyses, and that trend analysis would exclude the consideration of mitigating or contextual circumstances. (Sherry L. Lee, Executive Director – Texas State Board of Examiners of Psychologists)

### **Rec. 3.7 Complaint Prioritization**

#### **Agency Response**

The Board states that it already has a priority system, and gives top priority to complaints alleging imminent physical harm or sexual misconduct. Achieving the recommendation without defining the word “risk” and quantifying the term “seriousness” according to where the violation would rank on a schedule of sanctions would be difficult. (Sherry L. Lee, Executive Director – Texas State Board of Examiners of Psychologists)

#### **Modification**

1. Require the Board to dispose of all complaints in a timely fashion. (Betty Dawson, Secretary – Texas Association of Psychological Associates, Fort Worth)

### **Rec. 3.8 Public Members in Settlement Conferences**

#### **Agency Response**

The Board expresses concern about requiring a public member to take part in informal settlement conferences, because of a possibility that the Board would have to cancel a conference if the public member could not attend. (Sherry L. Lee, Executive Director – Texas State Board of Examiners of Psychologists)

### **Rec. 3.9 Schedule of Sanctions**

#### **Agency Response**

The Board states that its complaints are complex and involve multiple allegations, and that sanction schedules are only appropriate for complaints involving a single violation. (Sherry L. Lee, Executive Director – Texas State Board of Examiners of Psychologists)

### **Rec. 3.10 Restitution**

#### **Agency Response**

The Board believes that it is ill equipped to function as a small claims court, and that restitution should never be done in lieu of disciplinary action. (Sherry L. Lee, Executive Director – Texas State Board of Examiners of Psychologists)

Staff Comment: This recommendation would authorize, not require, the Board to reach an agreed order with the licensee for a refund of services paid for by the complainant in situations that may warrant such an order. Also, the Board could choose, but would not be required, to order a refund in lieu of, or in addition to, disciplinary action.

### **Rec. 3.11 Posting Enforcement Information**

#### **Agency Response**

The Board has long wanted to post enforcement information online, but a lack of information technology staff prevents it from achieving this goal. (Sherry L. Lee, Executive Director – Texas State Board of Examiners of Psychologists)

### **Rec. 3.12 Explanation of Complaint Dismissal**

#### **Agency Response**

The Board states that its current dismissal letter provides reasons for dismissal, and that overly specific explanations of dismissals would breach its statutory confidentiality requirements. (Sherry L. Lee, Executive Director – Texas State Board of Examiners of Psychologists)

Staff Comment: This management recommendation would direct the Board to provide a brief explanation of its dismissal decisions, possibly including the statutory or rule citations of the alleged violations and a general description of the investigative work performed. The Board would have the flexibility to choose details that would allow it to remain in compliance with its statute and rules.

#### **Agency Response to Fiscal Implication**

Recent changes in Northrop Grumman’s database programming fees will have a greater cost impact on recommendations regarding licensing and enforcement than was originally anticipated. (Sherry L. Lee, Executive Director – Texas State Board of Examiners of Psychologists)

#### **For**

Jonelle Ensign, M.S. – Licensed Specialist in School Psychology, Fort Worth

Betty Dawson, Secretary – Texas Association of Psychological Associates, Fort Worth

#### **Against**

None received.

**Recommended Action:** Adopt Recommendations 3.1 through 3.12.

**Commission Decision:** Adopted Recommendations 3.1 through 3.12.

## **Issue 4    Decide on Continuation of the Board After Completion of Sunset Reviews of Other Professional Licensing Agencies.**

### **Recommendation**

#### Change in Statute

#### **4.1    Decide on continuation of the Texas State Board of Examiners of Psychologists as a separate agency upon completion of upcoming Sunset reviews of other health and mental health licensing agencies.**

This recommendation would postpone the Sunset Commission's decision on the status of the Board as a separate agency until completion of the Sunset reviews of other health and mental health licensing agencies being reviewed this biennium.

### **Fiscal Implication**

This recommendation will not have a fiscal impact to the State.

## **Responses**

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### **Agency**

The Board believes that preservation of the agency as an independent agency would continue to serve to protect the public as it has for more than 30 years. (Sherry L. Lee, Executive Director – Texas State Board of Examiners of Psychologists)

#### Agency Modification

1.    If the Legislature decides to consolidate licensing agencies, the Board would like to have experienced and trained licensed psychologist and public Board members appointed by the Governor, that would have final say in disciplinary actions and in determination of violations of psychology statute and rules. The Board also suggests maintaining the expertise of licensed professions on the Board in making licensing decisions and adopting rules, and keeping staff who are familiar with the Board's statute and rules, and the issues involved in the regulation of psychology. (Sherry L. Lee, Executive Director – Texas State Board of Examiners of Psychologists; Pauline Clansy, Ed.D., Vice Chair – Texas State Board of Examiners of Psychologists)

### **For**

Betty Dawson, Secretary – Texas Association of Psychological Associates, Fort Worth

Jonelle Ensign, M.S. – Licensed Specialist in School Psychology, Fort Worth

### **Against**

None received.

### **Modifications – Board as an independent agency**

2.    Continue the Texas State Board of Examiners of Psychologists as an independent agency. (David White, Executive Director – Texas Psychological Association, Austin; Andrea Ogonosky, Ph.D., President – Texas Association of School Psychologists, Austin; David Rudd, Ph.D., Board Member – Texas Psychological Association, Austin)

### **Modifications – Consolidation**

3. If combining several boards improves efficiency and protects the public, then consolidation is favorable. (Stephen Westmoreland, psychologist – Tyler)
4. If the Board is combined with other licensing agencies, it should retain the authority to make its own rules and policies without oversight by another board, continue to have final say in disciplinary actions and determination of violations, and staff familiar with psychology statute and rules should be retained. (Andrea Ogonosky, Ph.D., President – Texas Association of School Psychologists, Austin)
5. A consolidated mental health licensing board, including the Psychology Board, should be implemented to save the State money and to put all mental health practitioners under one licensing authority. (Geoffrey M. Shute, L.P.A. – Austin)

**Recommended Action:** Adopt Recommendation 4.1.

**Commission Decision:** Adopted Recommendation 4.1. The Commission decided to postpone action on the continuation of all health and mental health licensing agencies until all such agencies have been reviewed.

## **ACROSS-THE-BOARD RECOMMENDATIONS**

## Texas State Board of Examiners of Psychologists

| Recommendations    | Across-the-Board Provisions   |
|--------------------|---|
| Already in Statute | 1. Require public membership on the agency's policymaking body.                           |
| Update             | 2. Require provisions relating to conflicts of interest.                                  |
| Already in Statute | 3. Require unbiased appointments to the agency's policymaking body.                       |
| Apply              | 4. Provide that the Governor designate the presiding officer of the policymaking body.    |
| Update             | 5. Specify grounds for removal of a member of the policymaking body.                      |
| Update             | 6. Require training for members of the policymaking body.                                 |
| Update             | 7. Require separation of policymaking and agency staff functions.                         |
| Already in Statute | 8. Provide for public testimony at meetings of the policymaking body.                     |
| Update             | 9. Require information to be maintained on complaints.                                    |
| Apply              | 10. Require the agency to use technology to increase public access.                       |
| Apply              | 11. Develop and use appropriate alternative rulemaking and dispute resolution procedures. |

**Recommended Action:** Adopt staff recommendations.

**Commission Decision:** Adopted staff recommendations.



**NEW ISSUES**

## New Issues

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The following issues were raised in addition to the issues raised in the staff report. These issues are numbered sequentially to follow the staff's recommendations.

5. Change the Psychologists' Licensing Act to permit the Board to impute professional misconduct from licensees with multiple malpractice claims without having to try the case or contact patients again, and to reciprocally accept the disciplinary orders of other states' psychology boards as a basis for discipline. (Sherry L. Lee, Executive Director – Texas State Board of Examiners of Psychologists)
6. Authorize the Psychology Board to participate in the quarterly criminal record checks conducted by the Department of Public Safety, under the provisions in the Code of Criminal Procedure, sec. 60.061(a) and (b), to help the Board more actively identify licensees who may be a threat to public safety. (Sherry L. Lee, Executive Director – Texas State Board of Examiners of Psychologists)

Staff Comment: Currently, five health licensing agencies – Medical Board, Podiatric Medical Board, Dental Board, Pharmacy Board, and the Veterinary Board – have authority to receive quarterly criminal record checks of their licensees, conducted by the Department of Public Safety (DPS). DPS charges the agencies \$50 per quarter. The Psychology Board could pay for the service with current funding, or raise licensing fees to generate the necessary revenue.

7. Authorize licensed psychological associates to practice independently, without working under the supervision of licensed psychologist.
  - Danny A. Velasquez, M.A., L.P.A., L.S.S.P., President – Texas Association of Psychological Associates, San Antonio
  - Betty Dawson, M.A., L.P.A., Secretary – Texas Association of Psychological Associates, Dallas
  - William G. Yeatts, M.A., L.P.A., L.S.S.P. – Texas Association of Psychological Associates, Dallas
  - Stephen Smith, L.P.A. – Beaumont
  - R. Leon Schmitz, M.A., L.P.A. – Lake Shore Center for Psychological Services, P.C., Waco
  - Shelley Campbell, M.S., Chief Executive Officer – Brenham Outreach Advisory Council, Inc., Brenham
  - Lissa Saadi, M.A., L.P.A., L.S.S.P. – San Antonio
  - Katrina G. Lane, M.S., L.P.A., L.S.S.P., L.P.C., L.M.F.T. – Dallas Independent School District, Dallas
  - David W. Edwards, M.S., L.P.A., L.P.C., L.M.F.T. – Brenham
  - Selva M. Fernandez, M.A., L.P.A., L.S.S.P. – San Antonio
  - Tomme R. Actkinson, Ph.D., Chair – Department of Psychology and Counseling, University of Mary Hardin-Baylor, Belton

- Beatrice W. Sager, M.S., L.M.F.T., L.C.D.C. – Mountain City
  - Sheila Barich, M.A., L.S.S.P., L.P.A. – San Antonio
  - Deirdre L. Braley, M.S., L.P.A., L.S.S.P., L.P.C. – Sugarland
  - Donald Baer, M.A., L.P.C., L.M.F.T. – Fort Worth
  - Paulette Pilsner, M.Ed., L.S.S.P. – Northside Independent School District, San Antonio
  - Joyce Hurwitz, M.Ed., L.S.S.P. – Austin
  - Charles Silverman, M.S., L.P.A., L.S.S.P. – Ector County Independent School District, Odessa
  - Angela J. Brett, student – University of North Texas, Denton
  - Tonya Paulette, L.S.S.P, L.P.A., L.P.C. – Austin Independent School District, Austin
  - Ron L. Roberts, M.S., L.P.A., L.P.C. – Tyler Counseling & Assessment Center, L.L.P., Tyler
  - Andoni Zagouris, M.A., L.P.A., L.S.S.P. – Pharr-SanJuan-Alamo Independent School District, McAllen
  - Edward R. Howarth, Jr., M.A., L.P.A., L.S.S.P. – San Antonio
  - James F. Curtis, L.P.A. – Athens; Jacqueline Daves, L.P.A. – Kilgore
  - Geoffrey M. Shute, L.P.A. – Austin
  - Richard DuBois – West Texas Area Counseling Center, Odessa
8. Create an independent practice license for masters level behavior analysts. (Geoffrey M. Shute, L.P.A. – Austin)

**Recommended Action:** Adopt New Issue 6.

**Commission Decision:** Adopted New Issue 6.