



November 8, 2023

Sarah Dubicki  
LMSW  
Psychotherapist

Esteemed Behavioral Health Committee,

My name is Sarah Dubicki and I am a Licensed Masters Social Worker in the state of Michigan and I vehemently oppose the proposed legislation in regards to the removal of the social work licensing examinations from the licensing process. I have been fully licensed in the state of Michigan since 2019. Taking the surface response to immediately remove the examination process puts the individuals served by licensed social workers in danger. Licensed social workers provide critical work in regards to mental health that require significant time and effort in order to obtain the skills required to provide care in a safe and ethical way. It is important that social workers understand the code of ethics and best practices at the minimum required to pass the examination when dealing with the public, especially in at-risk populations.

It is also my concern that every other mental health professional in the state of Michigan is required to pass examination; and removing the examination requirement will result in the social work profession as a whole losing it's earned place "at the table" with other medical and mental health professionals.

This is a dangerous precedent to set and a blanket fix to an extremely nuanced and complicated issue. I do not deny that there are significant changes that licensure can and should undergo in order to address discrimination and access. It is my belief that to simply remove an important part of licensure is a band aid on a broken bone and will hinder generations of social workers to come.

Should you require anything further or have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to reach out to me at the contact information below.

Sincerely,

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