

Submitter: Elizabeth Bailey
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Behavioral Health
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB4083

As a Licensed Clinical Social Worker (LCSW), I oppose this proposition for the MHRA to absorb the duties of the BLSW and allow practitioners with LPC or LMFT licenses to supervise CSWAs toward licensure. Social Work is a unique profession, encompassing and moving beyond the work of a mental health clinician. Social Workers frequently work within educational systems, healthcare systems, justice systems, legal systems, immigration systems, and more. The ability of Social Workers to move through, understand, and work within such varied systems is a key tenet of our education and training, and sets Social Workers apart from other licensed mental health clinicians. Navigating systems and developing a deep understanding of the Social Work Code of Ethics is integral in the training and development of CSWAs, and that training and supervision should be supervised by an LCSW with the education and training necessary to guide the next generation of Social Workers. Please vote no on this measure to uphold the integrity of the Social Work profession.