

Submitter: Jamie Auburn
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Behavioral Health
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB4083

I am an LCSW in Jackson County working with vulnerable populations. I provide direct services and clinical supervision. I support the administrative reforms in HB 4083, but I oppose the provision allowing Licensed Clinical Social Workers to be supervised by non-social work disciplines. Social work is a distinct, systems-based profession, and LCSWs are trained to work with people involved in child welfare, criminal justice, Medicaid, and other public systems where clinical decisions directly affect safety, rights, and access to essential resources. Supervision must ensure competence within this full scope of practice and social work-specific ethics, which cannot be adequately evaluated by supervisors trained outside of social work. Interdisciplinary collaboration is important, but supervision should remain within the social work profession to protect vulnerable populations. I urge the Legislature to amend HB 4083 accordingly.