

Submitter: Jennifer Kotley
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Behavioral Health
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB4083

I am a Licensed Clinical Social Worker and supervisor writing to OPPOSE HB 4083. Social work as a profession has existed for almost three quarters of a century a longer and for a different purpose than LPCs and LMFTs. The scope of practice, theoretical framework, and code of ethics for social work is vastly different than that of LPCs and LMFTs. Broadening the supervision regulations ignores the fact that Social Workers do not exclusively provide services in a therapeutic capacity and serve in a different capacity than the other disciplines. Social Workers entering the profession need and greatly benefit from the supervision and guidance of a supervisor who is fully aware of and invested in the breadth of social work. While LPCs and LMFTs are valued and highly regarded disciplines, allowing LPCs and LMFTs to supervise social workers does not address the concern of limited access to mental health providers. Addressing this concern specifically should include increased visibility for currently credentialled supervisors so that they can be matched with potential supervisees.