



SENATOR JOSÉ MENÉNDEZ
DISTRICT 26

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**Senator José Menéndez Issues Statement on Texas State Board of
Social Work Examiners Discriminatory Change in Code of Conduct**

San Antonio, Texas – This Monday, the Texas State Board of Social Work Examiners voted to change its code of conduct, which establishes when a social work may refuse to serve someone. The newly adopted code would no longer prohibit social workers from turning away clients on the basis of disability, sexual orientation and gender identity.

Senator José Menéndez released the following statement:

“The changes proposed by the Governor’s office and adopted by the Texas State Board of Social Work Examiners are on its face discriminatory, and gives mental health professionals a license to discriminate against the LGBTQIA community. When it comes to the health of any Texan, especially a person's mental health, we should be prioritizing their needs, not refusing to serve someone because of who they are. The State Board of Social Work Examiners and the Texas Behavioral Health Council must reinstate these protections instead of encouraging discrimination and intolerance.”

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