

**SUBJECT:** Repealing budget riders related to medical and psychology boards

**COMMITTEE:** Appropriations — favorable, without amendment

**VOTE:** 17 ayes — Zerwas, Longoria, Ashby, Capriglione, Cospers, Giddings, Gonzales, Howard, Koop, Miller, Perez, Phelan, Raney, Roberts, Rose, VanDeaver, Wu

0 nays

10 absent — G. Bonnen, S. Davis, Dean, Dukes, González, Muñoz, J. Rodriguez, Sheffield, Simmons, Walle

**SENATE VOTE:** On final passage, July 20 — 31-0

**WITNESSES:** *On House companion bill, HB 2:*  
For — (*Registered, but did not testify:* Gregory Hansch, National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) Texas)

Against — None

On — (*Registered, but did not testify:* Ken Levine, Sunset Advisory Commission)

**BACKGROUND:** In the fiscal 2018-19 general appropriations act, Rider 6 following the appropriations to the Texas Medical Board and Rider 2 following the appropriations to the Texas State Board of Examiners of Psychologists make fiscal 2019 funding for each board contingent on the enactment during the 85th Legislature's regular session of legislation to continue the boards. The regular session ended without the Legislature authorizing the continuation of these boards.

**DIGEST:** SB 60 would repeal two riders in the fiscal 2018-19 general appropriations act that make fiscal 2019 funding for the Texas State Board of Examiners of Psychologists and the Texas Medical Board contingent on the enactment during the 85th Legislature's regular session of

legislation to continue the boards.

This bill would take immediate effect if finally passed by a two-thirds record vote of the membership of each house. Otherwise, it would take effect on the 91st day after the last day of the special session.

**SUPPORTERS  
SAY:**

SB 60 is necessary to continue funding for the Texas Medical Board and the Texas State Board of Examiners of Psychologists. During the first called session, each chamber has approved a bill authorizing the continuation of both boards (HB 1 by Gonzales and SB 20 by V. Taylor), but two contingency riders in the fiscal 2018-19 budget must be repealed to ensure that the boards continue receiving funding for the coming fiscal biennium. This bill would repeal those riders to ensure that both boards receive the funds appropriated to support their operations until September 1, 2019, the new Sunset date authorized in HB 1 and SB 20.

**OPPONENTS  
SAY:**

No apparent opposition.

**NOTES:**

A companion bill, HB 2 by Gonzales, was approved by the House on July 28 and referred to the Senate Business and Commerce Committee on August 3.

SB 20 by V. Taylor, which would authorize the continuation of five boards, including the Texas Medical Board and the Texas State Board of Examiners of Psychologists, appears on today's daily calendar.