FULL COMPUTERIZATION OF THE SOCIAL WORK LICENSURE EXAMINATION

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WHEREAS, to cope up with the trend of technological modernization and globalization, the Board has to be an innovator by introducing changes in the form of new methods or processes and new services in administering the Social Work Licensure Examination through its full computerization;

WHEREAS, the adoption of such novel systems will bring forth these beneficial effects to the profession:

1. Credible, qualitative and efficacious licensure examinations that gain the public trust and faith therein;

2. Expeditious releases of examination results;

3. Ample time for the Board to exercise its regulatory powers and functions;

WHEREAS, under Res. No. 265, Series of 1993, the Commission directed that the examinations of all professions under the jurisdiction and supervision thereof "shall be fully computerized in 1993 except those professions with examinees below 1,000 which shall be programmed in 1994",

WHEREAS, the full computerization of the licensure examination does not only involve the correction and rating of test papers, but does also utilize the data bank from which questions are extracted and randomly arranged by and through the computer; and

WHEREAS, the Board for Social Workers is empowered by Sec. 4, R.A. No. 4373 and Sec. 6 (a) of P.D. No. 223, as amended, to adopt measures or policies that will preserve and improve the technical, ethical, and moral standards of Social Work;

NOW, THEREFORE, by virtue of the Board's quasi-legislative (rulemaking) power under Sec. 8 of R.A. No. 4373, the Board hereby RESOLVED, as it so RESOLVES, to fully computerize the Social Work Licensure Examination starting in the June, 1994 schedule under the following guidelines, viz.:

1. The Board Member with the assigned subject shall frame or formulate his/her own questions or adopt those supplied by the academe after he/she has modified or reformed them. Every question shall be appraised by a technical expert, if necessary, as to its objectivity, validity, reliability, and efficaciousness and shall be unambiguous and definite, calling only for one definite correct answer, and as to its degree of difficulty, i.e. easy, average or hard; as to its level of knowledge and proficiency; as to their types: subjective, e.g. problem, drawing or essay and objective, i.e., multiple choice of four (4) or more items. Questions for each category must be equitably comprehensive and representative of the mass. Subjects with both objective and subjective questions shall have this weight proportion: 70% objective and 30% subjective.

2. The Board Member assigned to the subject shall initially input into the question bank located at the Commission no less than five hundred (500) questions for each subject which must be based on the syllabus therefor containing the concepts and topics and which he/she has to build up by no less that three hundred (300) questions for every succeeding examination to reach the optimum ideal number of at least three thousand (3,000) questions. The questions shall be withdrawable or replenishable with those which are abreast of economic, social,

technological, and scientific advances and globalization of the profession.

3. The questions once fed into the question bank shall become the intellectual property of the Commission. The Board Member who formulated and inputted the questions there into shall lose the right to withdraw them. Once he/she is no longer a Board Member, the newly appointed Board Member, assigned to the subject, or the incumbent Board Member reassigned to the subject out of rotation by the Chairman, shall, accordingly, review the questions in the question bank, reword, or delete any of them and add his/her own questions.

4. The Board Member shall randomly extract or withdraw the number of questions required for the subject from the question bank which shall be randomized so as to produce at least two (2) sets with each having different chronological arrangements of questions for printing and distribution to the examinees.

5. During the extraction and printing of questions, assembling and packaging of questionnaires, all the authorized persons present in the confidential room shall not be allowed to get out therefrom until after the lapse of one (1) hour from the start of the examination for the concerned subject. Agents of NBI, security officers, designated persons and even authorized observers shall be stationed outside of the said room to watch and safeguard the proceedings.

6. The computer programs and files shall be ensured to be tamper-free. Multiple passwords shall be adopted so that no one person shall have complete control of, or access to, the computer programs and files. Three (3) responsible key officials shall be designated for this purpose.

7. The answers to the objective type questions (multiple choice) shall be corrected and rated through the OMR (Optical Mark Reader) Machine; the answers to subjective type questions (problem solving, drawing or essay) may be corrected through the OMR or manual process.

FURTHER, RESOLVED, that the herein Resolution, upon approval by the Commission, shall be effective after fifteen (15) days following its publication in the Official Gazette or any newspaper of general circulation, whichever is earlier.

FINALLY, RESOLVED, that the Resolution be disseminated through school/colleges/universities offering the course of Social Work to all concerned.

Adopted: 19 Apr. 1994

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