

1 TO THE HONORABLE SENATE:

2 The Committee on Government Operations to which was referred Senate
3 Bill No. 183 entitled “An act relating to planning for the Agency of Health
4 Care Administration” respectfully reports that it has considered the same and
5 recommends that the bill be amended by striking out all after the enacting
6 clause and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

7 Sec. 1. REENVISIONING THE AGENCY OF HUMAN SERVICES;

8 REPORT

9 (a) The Secretary of Human Services, in collaboration with the Deputy
10 Secretary of Human Services and the commissioner of each department within
11 the Agency of Human Services and in consultation with the Office of the
12 Health Care Advocate; the Office of the Child, Youth, and Family Advocate;
13 Disability Rights Vermont; the Office of the Long-Term Care Ombudsman;
14 and other relevant stakeholders, shall ~~develop recommendations either~~
15 consider options for reenvisioning the Agency of Human Services, such as
16 restructuring the existing Agency of Human Services or ~~for~~ dividing the
17 existing Agency of Human Services into two or more separate agencies.

18 (b) The Secretary of Human Services and the other stakeholders
19 identified in subsection (a) of this section shall evaluate the current
20 structure of the Agency of Human Services, identify potential options for

1 **reenvisioning the Agency and engage in a cost-benefit analysis of each**
2 **option, and develop one or more recommendations for implementation.**

3 (c) On or before February 1, 2025, the Secretary shall provide the
4 recommendations **developed by the Secretary and stakeholders** to the House
5 Committees on Government Operations and Military Affairs, on Health Care,
6 and on Human Services and the Senate Committees on Government
7 Operations and on Health and Welfare, including the following:

8 **(1) the rationale for selecting the recommended option or options;**

9 **(2) the likely impact of the recommendations on the departments**
10 **within the Agency and on the Vermonters served by those departments;**

11 **(3) how the ~~recommended configuration~~ recommendations would**
12 center the needs of and lead to better outcomes for the individuals and families
13 served by the Agency and its departments **and make the Agency more**
14 **accountable to the Vermonters whom it serves;**

15 **(4) how the ~~recommended configuration~~ recommendations could**
16 improve collaboration, integration, and alignment of the services currently
17 provided by the Agency and its departments **and how they could enhance**
18 **coordination and communication among the departments;**

19 **(5) how the ~~recommended configuration~~ recommendations could**
20 address the workforce and personnel capacity challenges that the Agency and
21 its departments encounter;

