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Sec. E.300.4. AGENCY OF HUMAN SERVICES; EVALUATION OF SERVICE DELIVERY; REPORT

(a) The Secretary of Human Services shall evaluate the methods by which the Agency and its community partners deliver services to the Agency's clients to identify opportunities for improved efficiency while ensuring that clients receive high-quality services. The evaluation shall include consideration of:

(1) the scope of services that can reasonably be delivered by the Agency, its community partners, and other parts of State government, and identification of the types of services that the Agency recommends the General Assembly should consider to be the highest priority. The evaluation of scope of services should be population-focused, with a consideration given to changing demographics across the state;

(2) the location and number of the Agency's district offices, including the extent to which they are consistent with or differ from other district office structures in State government;

(3) the methods of and funding sources for transportation-related and child development-related services, including identifying opportunities for increased coordination with the Agencies of Education and Transportation;

(4) federal requirements for certain types of hospitals and whether there are opportunities to make changes to better serve the needs of the communities within their hospital service areas;

(5) how certain health care programs can be structured to better leverage federal dollars and allow for more room under the Global Commitment Budget Neutrality cap;

(6) other areas in which the Agency determines there are opportunities for increased efficiencies.

(b) If the Agency determines that some or all of the evaluation requires the expertise of an entity outside of State government, the Agency may use up to \$200,000 of the funds appropriated to it for fiscal year 2020 for this purpose. If the Agency is unable to identify the full amount of funds needed from its fiscal year 2020 budget for the evaluation, the Agency may present the excess costs, not to exceed \$200,000 in total expenditures as part of its fiscal year 2020 budget adjustment proposal.

(c)(1) The Agency shall present its preliminary findings and any recommendations for legislative action to a legislative panel comprising the members of the Joint Fiscal Committee, the Chair of the House Committee on Human Services, and the Chair of the

Senate Committee on Health and Welfare, which shall occur on the same day as the November meeting of the Joint Fiscal Committee.

(2) The Agency shall provide its final findings and recommendations, including recommendations for both legislative and nonlegislative actions, as part of the Agency's fiscal year 2021 budget proposal to the General Assembly.

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