

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 consider options for reenvisioning the  
15 Agency of Human Services, such as restructuring the existing Agency of  
16 Human Services or dividing the existing Agency of Human Services into two  
17 or more separate agencies.

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

1 Agency and engage in a cost-benefit analysis of each option, and develop one  
2 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 within  
10 the Agency and on the Vermonters served by those departments, including  
11 Vermonters who are members of historically marginalized communities;

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

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

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

1           (6) how the recommendations could address the technology and facility  
2           challenges that the Agency and its departments encounter;

3           (7) a transition and implementation plan for the recommendations that is  
4           designed to minimize confusion and disruption for individuals and families  
5           served by the Agency and its departments, as well as for Agency and  
6           departmental staff;

7           (8) a proposed organizational chart for any recommended  
8           reconfigurations; and

9           (9) the estimated costs or savings associated with the recommendations.

10       Sec. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE

11       This act shall take effect on passage.

12       and that after passage the title of the bill be amended to read: “An act  
13       relating to reenvisioning the Agency of Human Services”

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17       (Committee vote: \_\_\_\_\_)

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Senator \_\_\_\_\_

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FOR THE COMMITTEE