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## DIGEST

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Harrison

HCR No. 50

**Abstract:** Authorizes and requests the secretaries of the Dept. of Health and Hospitals (DHH) and the Dept. of Children and Family Services (DCFS) jointly to prepare a plan for abolition of the two departments and the creation of a new consolidated Dept. of Children, Family, and Health Services. Specifies plan contents.

Proposed resolution authorizes and requests the DHH and DCFS secretaries jointly to prepare a plan for abolition of the two departments and the creation of a new consolidated Dept. of Children, Family, and Health Services. Provides that the plan's purposes are promoting economy and efficiency in the operation and management of state health and social services functions, strengthening the executive capacity of the new department for effective, efficient, and economic administration while improving the quality of the functions performed and the programs and services rendered, and eliminating to the fullest practicable extent duplication of effort within state health and social services functions.

Proposed resolution provides that the two secretaries shall conduct a comprehensive study of the organization and operations of the two departments, including merger of functions, abolition of agencies, consolidation of offices, elimination of job positions, elimination of duplication of functions, full implementation of an office of management and finance and consolidation of its functions, and efficiency and economy in delivery of services.

Proposed resolution provides that such plan include:

- (1) A proposed organizational structure to accomplish the consolidation and assignment of the powers, duties, functions, responsibilities, and programs of the two departments within the new department and such improved and efficient operation and management of the state's health and social services programs and functions as needed to best accomplish the plan's purposes as stated above and the purposes of the Executive Reorganization Act.
- (2) Provisions for transfer and utilization of positions, personnel, funds, office space, facilities, and equipment, and other detail necessary for the department merger.
- (3) Provisions for transferring, from the two departments to the new department, unfinished business, references in laws and documents, employees, property, contractual or other obligations, and books and records, and provisions for the effect of the reorganization on administrative rules.

- (4) A budget proposal and related information for the consolidated department to implement the reorganization plan, including the number and classification of personnel by office and program; the amount of total funds by office and program broken down to reflect the proposed use of such funds; information concerning vehicle use by each office and program and budget requirements therefor; information concerning consolidation of operations of the office of management and finance; information concerning effects on personnel requirements and service delivery and utilization of building space, supplies, and equipment.
- (5) A report of the findings of the secretaries' comprehensive study and examination of the organization and operations of the two departments and any other explanatory material the secretaries determine necessary to explain the plan.
- (6) Proposals for legislation necessary to implement the proposed plan.

Proposed resolution provides that the secretaries shall complete such plan and submit it to the speaker of the House of Representatives, the president of the Senate, the Joint Legislative Committee on the Budget, the House Committee on House and Governmental Affairs, and the Senate Committee on Senate and Governmental Affairs not later than Dec. 31, 2011, and submit copies thereof to the governor and to the commissioner of administration.

Proposed resolution provides that the Joint Legislative Committee on the Budget, the House Committee on House and Governmental Affairs, and the Senate Committee on Senate and Governmental Affairs, individually or jointly, may conduct such hearings as they deem appropriate to review the plan and material submitted and that the secretaries shall furnish the committees any information they may request concerning reorganization of the departments and, at the request of any of the committees, appear before them to provide requested information.