

**NEWS BRIEF:**

## **Department of Health and Social Services to be Reorganized?**

**JUNE 30, 2019** -- One of the state's largest agencies could be in line for a makeover.

Proponents of legislation passed in the General Assembly on Thursday note that the Department of Health and Social Services (DHSS) was established in 1970 with a broad mandate "to supervise the health, well-being, and life of Delaware citizens." They say the state's population has grown by 76% over the last 49 years -- a period during which sweeping societal changes have taken place. Among other things, the department administers Delaware's Medicaid program and is responsible for spending more than a quarter of the state's annual operating budget.

[Senate Concurrent Resolution 65](#) will create a 17-member committee to explore reorganization. In undertaking its mission, the group will consider the quality of service delivery; access to services; the elimination of duplication; and the potential operational impacts of implementing any of its recommendations.

A report will be issued to state budget writers by March 31st on the committee's progress toward drafting a strategic plan.

