

(a) The Commission shall assess:

(1) The extent and amount of uncompensated care delivered by providers;

(2) The [relationship of] LEVEL OF AND changes in wages paid by providers to [changes in rates paid by the Department] DIRECT SUPPORT WORKERS, including the source of revenue for wages paid by providers;

(3) The ability of providers to operate on a solvent basis in the delivery of effective and efficient services that are in the public interest;

(4) The incentives and disincentives:

(i) Incorporated in the rate setting methodologies utilized and proposed by the Mental Hygiene Administration and the Developmental Disabilities Administration; and

(ii) In alternative methodologies;

(5) ~~Measures of quality and how~~ HOW incentives to provide quality care can be built into a rate setting methodology; AND

(6) The impact of [consumer safety] CHANGES IN REGULATIONS THAT IMPACT ON THE costs OF PROVIDERS and whether the rates have been adjusted to provide for [consumer safety costs] ANY INCREASED COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH THE REGULATORY CHANGES; ~~and~~

~~(7) THE TRENDS IN HOUSING COSTS, AND HOW THESE TRENDS ARE AFFECTING THE COSTS OF PROVIDERS OF RESIDENTIAL SERVICES; AND~~

~~(8) Other rate system issues determined by the Commission to be appropriate.~~

(b) The Commission shall:

(1) Develop OR REFINE methodologies for calculating rate update factors for rates paid by the Developmental Disabilities Administration and the Mental Hygiene Administration and recommend annual rate update factors that use the methodologies that are developed;

(2) With respect to the Developmental Disabilities Administration: