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November 28, 2011

Rep. Paul Ingbretson, Chairman
House Committee on Redress of Grievances
State of New Hampshire House of Representatives
33 N. State St., LOB Room 104
Concord, NH 03301

Re: Request for Information re Policies, Protocols and Rules

Dear Mr. Chairman:

I am responding to your letter requesting that Director Bishop appear before the Committee on Redress of Grievances to provide information regarding the policies, protocols and rules of the Department of Health and Human Services with respect to some of the situations alleged in Petitions 2, 6, 8 and 14, which are pending before the Committee.

The allegations contained in each of the petitions apparently relate to specific abuse and neglect cases. The facts and circumstances of each abuse and neglect proceeding are unique to those cases. It is evident that the questions for DCYF enclosed with your letter require responses that specifically relate to the facts and circumstances of specific cases. State law prohibits DCYF from disclosing any information contained in any records related to abuse and neglect investigations and court proceedings. *See* RSA 169-C:25 and 170-G:8-a. Because of the prohibition, neither Director Bishop nor any other employee of the Department may provide answers to the types of questions that will be posed by Committee members. Consequently, a representative of DCYF will not be meeting with the Committee on November 29, 2011 at 10:00 a.m.

Earlier this year, the Committee was provided with an overview of the Child Protection Act process. Please let me know if there are other generally applicable printed materials that I may provide to the Committee.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Richard W. Head".

Richard W. Head
Associate Attorney General
603-271-1221