Via Electronic Mail

July 23, 2009

Mark Wancket
Public Information Officer
Freedom of Information Office
Illinois State Board of Education
100 North First Street
Springfield, Illinois 62777-0001

Attn: FOIA Request

Dear Mr. Mark Wancket:

Pursuant to the Illinois Freedom of Information Act, 5 ILCS §§ 140 et seq., we respectfully request the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) to provide our office with any and all documents and information relating to the basis by which ISBE designates programs as either “mandated categoricals” or “non-mandated categoricals” and in particular the manner in which Bilingual Education Program funding has been categorized (“mandated categoricals” or “non-mandated categoricals”) by ISBE in Fiscal years 2001 through 2007. Specifically, we believe that this information may be contained within the Fiscal Year budgets during that time period.

We agree to pay reasonable fees associated with the processing of this request. However, if the bill has the potential of exceeding $100 please provide us with notice in advance.

If any record or portion of a record responsive to this request is contained in a record or portion of a record deemed unresponsive to this request, we would like to inspect the entire document. Likewise, under 5 ILCS 140/8, if any portion of a document is exempt from disclosure, the exempted information can be deleted and all non-exempt portions of any partially-exempt documents should be disclosed. If any records or portion of records are withheld, please identify the exemption on which you rely and the basis on which the exemption is invoked.

Thank you for your prompt consideration of this request. As required by 5 ILCS 140/3, a response is expected within 7 working days. If you have any questions regarding this request, please feel free to contact me at (312) 427-0701.

Sincerely,

Anita Maddali
Staff Attorney

Advancing Latino Civil Rights for over 40 Years
www.maldef.org