June 30, 2010

Mr. Matt Vanover  
Illinois State Board of Education  
100 North First Street  
Springfield, Illinois 62777-0001  
ATTN: FOIA Request  
Re: Illinois Freedom of Information Act Request

Dear Mr. Vanover:

The Illinois Policy Institute hereby requests the Illinois State Board of Education produce the following public records pursuant to the provisions of the Illinois Freedom of Information Act, 5 Ill. Comp. Stat. Ann. 140/1 et seq.:

1. Information pertaining to all vendor contracts over $500 excluding wages and salaries for all school districts as provided to the ISBE in each district's Annual Statement of Affairs for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2009 including:
   a. Name of School District
   b. Complete name of vendor or individual
   c. Payment amount
   d. County where the school district is located

I am requesting these files in Excel spreadsheets (or similar database files) in electronic form either by email (mcavers@illinoispolicy.org) or on a CD or DVD.

Please produce the requested record(s) to Mark Cavers, 190 S. LaSalle Street, Suite 1630, Chicago, IL 60603 within (5) working days of your receipt of this request (Ill. Comp Stat. Ann. 140/3(c)). If the requested record(s) cannot be produced within five (5) working days, please notify us in writing of the reason(s) for the delay and the date by which the requested record(s) will be available.

The Illinois Policy Institute requests that the above-referenced records be furnished without charge pursuant to 5 Ill. Comp. Stat. 140/6. The Illinois Policy Institute is a 501(c)(3) non-profit educational organization that seeks to promote transparency in government and to examine effective market-based solutions to the public policy challenges of our state. The principal purpose of this request is to enable the Illinois Policy Institute to access and analyze the requested information and disseminate the results of the findings to the public. Waiver or reduction of the fee is therefore in the public interest, as the principle purpose of the request is to access and disseminate information regarding the health, safety, welfare, and legal rights of the public in general. We do not make this request for the principal purpose of securing any personal or commercial benefit. Thus, a waiver or reduction of fees is in the public interest. In the event any fee is to be charged for copying the requested records, please advise us in advance if the expected cost of the copying is likely to exceed $100.00.

If you do not understand this request, or any portion thereof, or if you feel you require clarification of this request, or any portion thereof, please contact us at (312) 346-5700 ext. 207.

Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Mark Cavers  
Research Associate  
Illinois Policy Institute