June 13, 2011

VIA FACSIMILE AND CERTIFIED MAIL

Mr. Matt Vanover
Freedom of Information Office
Illinois State Board of Education
100 North First Street
Springfield, Illinois 62777-0001

Re: Illinois Freedom of Information Act Request

Dear Mr. Vanover,

Please consider this correspondence a formal request for documents pursuant to the Illinois Freedom of Information Act ("FOIA"), 5 ILCS 140/1 et seq. Pursuant to 5 ILCS 140/1.2, all records in the custody or possession of a public body are presumed to be open to inspection or copying. If any part of this request is denied, please reference the specific document denied and the legal basis upon which disclosure is being denied.

Pursuant to FOIA, please provide the following:

1. Any and all communications, written or electronic, by and between the United States Department of Education’s Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP) and the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) related to OSEP’s verification visit to ISBE in November 2010 and the OSEP letter to Dr. Christopher Koch dated January 26, 2011, including, but not limited to, written correspondence, e-mails, and phone logs from November 2010 to the present date.

2. Any and all documents related to ISBE’s presentation, briefing, and/or meeting with Joint House and Senate Appropriations Committee including, but not limited to, handouts, guides, presentation packets, notes, and those documents created or used in preparation of such meeting from April 1, 2011 to the present date.

3. Any and all correspondence, written or electronic, by and between ISBE and members of the House or Senate Appropriations Committee related to the briefing and/or meeting that took place between ISBE and the Joint House and Senate Appropriations Committee in or about April/May 2011 including, but not limited
to, written correspondence, e-mails, and phone logs from March 2011 to the present date.

The principal purpose for this information request is to safeguard the interests and to protect the health, safety, welfare, and legal rights of the general public. This request for information is not for the purpose of personal or commercial gain. Accordingly, pursuant to 5 ILCS 140/6(c), we request a waiver of all copying fees. Please be aware that FOIA requests require a response within five (5) working days of your receipt. We look forward to your timely compliance, since this correspondence is being received by you today by facsimile.

If you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact me.

Sincerely,

Shermin S. Ali