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Subject: Transparency bill

I talked to DSS about the bill (H.3124). We will need to make a change to the bill and will not be able to ask the House to concur.

Apparently, DSS would not be able to talk about the Messenger case under the new language – the highlighted language was NOT brought to our attention by Senators. I talked to Sen. Massey about the change to the General Assembly disclosure which we approved and are ok with.

Also, DSS would still like to have clarification regarding immunity. DSS will send me an amendment for the House.

SECTION 2. Section 63-7-940(A)(7) of the 1976 Code is amended to read:

"(7) as authorized in Section 63-7-2000; and"

SECTION 3. Section 63-7-940(A) of the 1976 Code is amended by adding two appropriately numbered items at the end to read:

"() to confirm, clarify, or correct information concerning a case that has been made public by the party in interest to the case; and

() to respond to an inquiry from a committee or subcommittee of the Senate or the House of Representatives or a joint committee of the General Assembly, which is engaged in oversight or investigating the activities of the department, provided that such information is reviewed in closed session and kept confidential. Notwithstanding the provisions of Chapter 4, Title 30, meetings to review information disclosed pursuant to this item may be held in closed session and any documents or other materials provided or reviewed during the closed session are not subject to public disclosure.

The department must state that the case was unfounded when disclosing information pursuant to this subsection."

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