



State of Wisconsin
Department of Health and Family Services

Tommy G. Thompson, Governor
Joe Llean, Secretary

February 25, 2000

The Honorable Robert Wirch
Wisconsin State Senate
Capitol Building, 310 South
Madison, WI 53707-7882

The Honorable Jeff Stone
Wisconsin State Assembly
Capitol Building, 306 North
Madison, WI 53708-8953

RE: SB 339 and AB 688

Dear Senator Wirch and Representative Stone:

I have attached to this cover an amendment to your legislation for your consideration. This is being done at the request of the Department of Corrections. In short, LRB 1405 will allow for the exchange of information with law enforcement agencies and schools. This change will make the proposed ss. 48.78 (3)(b) and 938.78 (4)(b) under the legislation parallel to the exchange of information under existing statutes ss. 48.78 (2)(b) and 938.78 (2)(b)(1). This will not weaken the confidentiality protections for foster parent records: both law enforcement and schools are statutorily mandated to keep any information received confidential. This amendment will allow the Division of Juvenile Corrections to continue to meet the needs of juveniles in protective services without fearing that sharing information about the juvenile may contain information also contained in a foster parent record.

Sincerely,

Kevin Lewis
Legislative Liaison

attachment

cc: Senator Judy Robson
Representative Carol Owens

Bob Margolies, Department of Corrections