



Rhode Island Executive Office of Health and Human Services
Legal Office, 74 Hazard Road, 2nd floor, Cranston, RI 02920
phone: 401.462.2326 fax: 401.462.1678

September 28, 2015

Justin Katz
Ocean State Current

SENT VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

**RE: ACCESS TO PUBLIC RECORDS REQUEST
ELIZABETH ROBERT'S PROPOSAL FOR
ADDITIONAL FEDERAL FUNDS FOR UHIP**

Dear Mr. Katz:

Please be advised that I represent the Executive Office of Health and Human Services ("EOHHS") concerning your Access to Public Records Request received on September 14, 2015. Specifically, you seek the following;

"May I have a copy of Elizabeth Robert's proposal for additional federal funds for UHIP, additionally, if there are any documents related to the budget or progress on the project that would not be included in Robert's proposal, I would like those as well."

Your request is governed by Rhode Island General Laws (R. I. Gen. Laws) §38-2-1 et seq. entitled "Access to Public Records" ("Act"). Please be advised that the documents regarding a proposal to request additional federal funds for UHIP are exempt from disclosure pursuant to R. I. Gen. Laws §38-2-2(4)(i)(K) as preliminary drafts, notes, impressions, memoranda, working papers and work products until that proposal is finalized. That proposal is still in development as part of the budget development process. Thus, EOHHS' request for additional funding for UHIP and documents related to the budget or progress on the project fall within this exemption as preliminary drafts, working papers and work product at this time. However as the proposal becomes finalized we will be sure to provide it to you along with any supporting materials. We are on a very tight timeline to complete this proposal and will communicate with you about it before the end of October.

Rhode Island General Laws § 38-2-8 provides an avenue of appeal, on this decision:

- (a) Any person or entity denied the right to inspect a record of a public body may petition the chief administrative officer of that public body for a review of the determinations made by his or her subordinate. The chief administrative officer shall make a final determination whether or not to allow public inspection within ten (10) business days after the submission of the review petition.



For the purposes of any such appeal, the Secretary of EOHHS Elizabeth H. Roberts is the Chief Administrative Officer. Her address for mailing an appeal is 74 Hazard Road, Cranston, Rhode Island 02920. Thank you for your inquiry with the Executive Office of Health and Human Services.

Should you wish to discuss this matter further, please feel free to contact me directly at 401-462-0251 or via the above email.

Sincerely,

Gregory P. Hazian
Senior Legal Counsel
Executive Office of Health and Human Services

Cc: Jennifer Wood, Deputy Secretary-General Counsel
Wayne Hannon, Deputy Secretary
Mike Raia, Communications Director
Deborah A. George, Esq., Acting Legal Services Administrator

