



RICK SNYDER
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
LANSING

MAURA D. CORRIGAN
DIRECTOR

April 21, 2011

The Honorable Bruce Caswell, Chair
Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on DHS
State Capitol
Lansing, Michigan 48933

The Honorable David Agema, Chair
House Appropriations Subcommittee on DHS
State Capitol
Lansing, Michigan 48933

Dear Senator Caswell and Representative Agema:

Section 584 of 2010 PA 190 requires the Department of Human Services to “provide recommendations to the senate and house appropriations subcommittees on the department budget, the senate and house standing committees on families and human services, and the senate and house fiscal agencies and policy offices on changes to current state statutes that would ensure more effective communication between caseworkers and courts administering foster care cases.”

The department is not recommending statutory changes at this time. Foster care policy currently requires staff to provide the court with timely notification of a child’s status (i.e. placement decisions, placement changes, and submission of service plans prior to a court review). The department will continue to collaborate with the courts to identify areas of foster care policy to strengthen as it relates to effective and timely communication.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Susan Kangas".

Susan Kangas,
Chief Financial Officer

cc: Senate and House Appropriations Subcommittees on DHS
Senate and House Committees on Family and Human Services
Senate and House Fiscal Agencies and Policy Offices
State Budget Director