



Office of the Attorney General
State of Texas

DAN MORALES
ATTORNEY GENERAL

July 31, 1996

Ms. Linda Wiegman
Supervising Attorney
Office of General Counsel
Texas Department of Health
1100 West 49th Street
Austin, Texas 78756-3199

OR96-1357

Dear Ms. Wiegman:

You ask whether certain information is subject to required public disclosure under the Open Records Act, chapter 552 of the Government Code. Your request was assigned ID# 100230.

The Texas Department of Health (the "department") received a request for "[m]edicaid health cost incurred for 1995 by youth in our conservatorship and by youth we provide services to through a contractual agreement with TDPRS." You assert that the requested information is excepted from required public disclosure based on section 552.101 of the Government Code, which excepts from disclosure information that is made confidential by law, either constitutional, statutory, or by judicial decision.

This office has determined that state and federal law prohibit the department from releasing to the public any information concerning medicaid recipients except for purposes directly connected to the administration of the medicaid programs. *See* Open Records Letter No. 94-691 (1994); *see also* Open Records Decision No. 584 (1991). The requested release of the medicaid information here is not connected to the department's administration of its medicaid programs. We therefore conclude that the department must withhold the requested information pursuant to section 552.101 of the Government Code as information made confidential by statutory law.

We are resolving this matter with this informal letter ruling rather than with a published open records decision. This ruling is limited to the particular records at issue

under the facts presented to us in this request and may not be relied upon as a previous determination regarding any other records. If you have questions about this ruling, please contact our office.

Yours very truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kay Guajardo". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Kay Guajardo
Assistant Attorney General
Open Records Division

KHG/rho

Ref.: ID# 100230

Enclosures: Submitted documents

cc: Mr. Victor G. Azios, LMSW-ACP
Division Director
The Casey Family Program
San Antonio Division
2840 Babcock
San Antonio, Texas 78229
(w/o enclosures)