

William Keith

From: William Keith <wmkeith@me.com>
Sent: Wednesday, January 6, 2016 10:26 AM
To: DOA Public Records Board Comments
Subject: Keep all types of records public

I am writing as a citizen of the state to ask that you rescind your action exempting electronic communications from the state's open records law. It insures that the open government would cease to exist, since officials would simply transfer their all communications to channels not open to the public.

The point of open records is that all relevant communications be available to the public, no matter how created, so that we can see that decisions are made in the public interest, that officials are not being bought and sold, and that they are not giving away state resources to cronies. The *Milwaukee Journal-Sentinel* has laid this out in detail, and it's very hard to argue with their conclusions:

<http://www.jsonline.com/news/opinion/speak-out-electronic-records-belong-to-wisconsins-citizens-b99646169z1--364277531.html>

Every communication about state business should constitute a public record, or the public records law is essentially negated: All the "real" work will happen online, and only what they want us to see will be in "official" records.

Please rescind this change, and insure that we can have open and accountable government.

Bill

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