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October 14, 2026

VIA E-MAIL ONLY: billdenisepepperling1987@gmail.com

Denise Pepperling
billdenisepepperling1987@gmail.com

Re: Petition for Public Records Disclosure Order
Oregon Department of Human Services
DOJ File No.: 100001-GA0195-26

Dear Ms. Pepperling:

This letter is the Attorney General's response to your petition under the Oregon Public Records Law, ORS 192.311 to 192.431. Your petition challenges the completeness of the Oregon Department of Human Services' (ODHS) response to your August 19, 2026, records request. For the reasons discussed below, we respectfully deny the petition.

The Public Records Law confers the right to inspect public records in Oregon, unless such records are exempt under ORS 192.338, 192.345, or 192.355. ORS 192.314(1). The law is a disclosure law, and exemptions from disclosure must be express. Any person denied the right to inspect or to receive a copy of a public record of a state agency may petition the Attorney General to review the record and determine if it may be withheld. ORS 192.411(1). The agency carries the burden to sustain its actions. *Id*.

Your petition stems from a request to ODHS for records concerning a financial review conducted in December 2024. In response to your request, ODHS produced a single Excel file. Your petition questions the completeness of this response. You contend that ODHS should have many additional records supporting the audit that was conducted.

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We contacted Mallory Kenney, ODHS Public Records Unit Manager, regarding your petition. Ms. Kenney noted that you limited your records request to the date ranges of December 1, 2024, to February 5, 2025. ODHS conducted a search based on those parameters and identified only the excel spreadsheet it provided. ODHS located no additional records that were responsive to request within the date range specified by you. Under these circumstances, we have no reason to question ODHS's representation that it has provided all responsive records. We therefore respectfully deny your petition.

Sincerely,

BENJAMIN GUTMAN
Deputy Attorney General

DEP:pjn
c via e-mail only: Mallory Kenney (ODHS)