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**To:** [Clerk](#)  
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**Subject:** Early childhood Millage  
**Date:** Saturday, September 18, 2021 6:44:46 PM

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Please send this message to every Board Member and it is for Public Comment. Thank You

Dear County Commissioners,

I was deeply dismayed to hear that the Board is going to nullify my vote by reducing the millage that was passed for the Early Childhood Development to 0.0. I made a special point to vote for that millage because I believe that we as a county owe it to the next generation to support them in every way possible. I voted for that millage knowing that I would pay a fraction more on my tax bill, but the return on my investment will be large. It has been proven that if you invest in children and parents early on, the rewards far outweigh the cost. There will be less crime, less addiction, less suicide, less broken homes, less divorce, less abortion etc. Prevention is the key here as opposed to paying for it later with time in jail, substance abuse treatment, lost lives, and unhappy, unfulfilled people. Please reconsider your decision to cut the millage. The Board of Commissioners does not have the authority to change the vote that was legally held and decided. If you want to change it, let's vote again in a few years when it is time to renew and if you don't like it you can vote NO on it. The people of Leelanau County have spoken and The Board must obey the vote of the people. The Board cannot just change it because the Board doesn't like it. That is not how County government works and all the commissioners should be aware of the rules for governing.

Sincerely

Martha Ryan

Martha's Leelanau Table

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