

From: [Michelle Crocker](#)
To: [Board of Commissioners](#)
Cc: [Chet Janik](#); [Alison Middleton](#)
Subject: FW: On the record
Date: Monday, September 20, 2021 9:27:12 AM

Dear Commissioners:
Please see Public Comment below.
Michelle

From: Shane Boland Harrison <sbolandharrison@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, September 20, 2021 8:20 AM
To: Will Bunek <wbunek@leelanau.gov>; Michelle Crocker <mcrocker@leelanau.gov>; Chet Janik <cjanik@leelanau.gov>
Subject: On the record

Sheer Hypocrisy

Dear Mr. Bunek,

Your stance on abortion is common knowledge, having brought students to a commission meeting seeking acknowledgment for their participation in Students for Life. However, when it comes to support for born children in our county you advocate taking away the very support structures young parents need to raise caring, productive adults. Support is needed the moment a woman finds out she is pregnant. Your stance is sheer hypocrisy.

The Leelanau economy is faltering as businesses struggle to fill positions and young families leave due to high housing costs, a lack of childcare, and other supports. We know the highest rate of return-on-investment for children comes from investing as early as possible. A small investment now pays huge dividends later. **Our economic future in Leelanau County** depends on building a highly educated and skilled workforce. Making sure Leelanau continues to be a good place to raise a family requires an investment. Robust Early Childhood services are the most efficient means to accomplish these goals.

Research shows parents and children who are supported in early childhood have:

- Lower substance abuse rates
- Half as many criminal arrests
- Better problem-solving skills
- Lower divorce rates

- Less depression
- Lower teen pregnancy rates
- Lower retention/special education needs
- Higher graduation rates
- More likelihood to attend college
- Higher lifelong earnings

Please vote to restore the Early Childhood millage funding so when a couple chooses to have a child they do so knowing that their community is able to support them both financially and emotionally.

Your Constituent,
Shane Boland Harrison
Lake Leelanau, MI

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