

To the Leelanau County Board of Commissioners,

Your unprecedented action of rolling back the Early Childhood Services millage to .000 has us very angry and upset! Not only are you taking away services to benefit young families, but your comments about the need to correct “bad” or “poor” legislation is undemocratic. We, the voters, approved this millage! To the commissioner who says the election was “illegal” we say, if you were unhappy with the outcome, you should have prompted your constituents to get out and let their voice be heard! To the commissioner who says early childhood programs create more problems among children who receive services perhaps he should look beyond the Quebec study which only looked at universal childcare programs, not services which give direct support to families in the form of play groups, home care visits, and counseling for parents and their children.

This board’s concerns about the unborn should translate over to those young children who are born! Children are the future of our county, our country and society! We all want a healthy environment for future generations.

When our children were born in Leelanau County in the early 1980’s we were without nearby close by family, not well off financially, and we would have welcomed services to give us guidance. We did manage to raise two well adjusted children

but how wonderful it would have been if we had had access to organized programs to encourage our efforts as parents.

To negate the will of the voters strikes us as SO undemocratic it makes our heads spin! You think you can just determine what is best without listening to the public, thus undermining our role in legislation? Are we living in a dictatorship or communist country? To bring this up without any prior discussion amongst your fellow commissioners is just plain wrong. You should be ashamed of yourselves.

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