

From: [Jeremy Connolly](#)
To: [Board of Commissioners](#); [Chet Janik](#); [Clerk](#)
Subject: Please put this in the correspondence for this issue.
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Children are the future; they should all have access to services that will give them a good start. The voters of Leelanau County agreed with that premise. You have no authority to change access to a program that people voted the money to provide. You have no expertise to evaluate the efficacy of the program and you certainly have fallen short with the one research study you have chosen; the Leelanau program is not like the Quebec program. The main thing: four commissioners overturning a vote that has been backed by experts in the field is not within your purview. What you are doing is undermining democracy and moving us toward a dangerous place where you are placing yourselves in a position to control our county government in a way that is not intended in this country. That is not good for citizens. Cutting the budget for the Early Childhood is particularly not good for the children of Leelanau County and their parents. It is not good for having a county that serves all people—no matter their age or their ability to speak for themselves. Please give this valuable program the chance to do what it was intended to do.

Jeremy and Michael Connolly