

May 31, 1989

Honorable Members of the
Cambridge City Council

Dear Council Members:

As parents of children in childcare we write to request reconsideration of a policy which is destructive of affordable quality programs in Cambridge. At present the budget of the Childcare Division of Cambridge Human Services includes salaries for administrators only. Childcare teachers' salaries are covered by parents' fees. These salaries are so low that childcare teachers cannot stay in their profession. The resulting staff turnover year after year has denied children the consistent experienced teachers they need. Each fall programs have to start from scratch while staff members learn on the job. As parents we want there to be incentive for qualified teachers to remain and build stronger programs.

Parent fees increase annually, but staff salaries remain at the poverty level. The solution must come by sharing the cost of fair compensation for teachers between parents and the city.

Cambridge should be proud of its commitment to children and childcare. That pride ought to extend to proper treatment for those responsible for its childcare programs.

Respectfully Yours,

John I. Berry
John I. Berry
164 Pleasant St.
Cambrdy, 02139

19.

S-490

Comm. from John T. Berry & Laurie Taymor-Berry
Re: childcare programs.

RECEIVED BY
OFFICE OF CITY CLERK
1989 JUN 23 AM 11:36
CAMBRIDGE MA.

In City Council,

June 26, 1989

6-26-89

Referred to the

8-7-89 Special Meeting

8-7-89

Hearing to be Re-Scheduled