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Supervisor Ray Nutting
El Dorado County Board of Supervisors
330 Fair Lane
Placerville, CA 95667

Re: Parcel #101-152-04-100
Pollock Pines School District

March 17, 2009

Dear Ray,

First I need to thank you for all your work in getting the trees down in our front yard so that the addition for our son, Michael, could progress! It just amazed us to see all the hard work that went into felling those trees, and I can assure you it was a huge day in Michael's life, to see so many in the community come together in an effort to get him home.

I am also writing regarding the building permit fees for Michael's addition. When the project was in the beginning stages, I believe the cost for the permits was \$1200. Members of the El Dorado Builders Exchange have very generously donated funds to cover this expense. However, any further permit fees will be difficult to meet. I left my job the day of Michael's accident, June 10, 2007, and was on State Disability for stress. That ran out in September of 2008, and I have been unable to find work since then. Add to that the fact that my husband was laid off for a couple of months in late 2008, and our financial situation is very tenuous at best. Michael gets Social Security payments, but the nursing home where he resides gets all but \$35 of that each month. So as you can see, there isn't any 'extra' money available. Michael has many needs that are not filled by the nursing home staff-1 drive him to and from appointments, etc, in the wheelchair accessible van we purchased. It's very expensive to put gas into the van - I supply Michael with nutritious snacks and juices, which are unavailable through the nursing home.

Our family has resided in El Dorado County for about 17 years. Michael and 2 of his sisters, Lindsay and Suzi, graduated from El Dorado High School. Michael was, before this accident, a productive member of the community, working as an Assistant Sales Manager at Placerville Ford. Michael was injured in a car accident on Highway 50 on June 10, 2007, when the friend driving Michael's car fell asleep at the wheel, leaving Michael critically injured and in a coma. A young woman in the back seat, Trisha Watson, died in the crash. Needless to say, many, many lives have been turned upside down since this accident.

Michael has been residing at Placerville Pines Care Home since October 10th, 2007 - over 2 years. He gets no therapies, no rehab, and very substandard care there. The only reason he is still there is because we have a very small home (960 sq') and simply have no room for Michael and all the things he'd need to be adequately taken care of. Also, he is at this time unable to access a regular shower, or the toilet in our bathrooms, so would need a shower chair accessible shower and toilet to help further his recovery and quest for as much independence as possible.

Anything that can be done to reduce the building permit fees/school district fees in any way, or at least to keep them at the \$1200 that has been raised, would be greatly appreciated. El Dorado County has been fantastic about seeing Michael's situation and trying so hard to make it better for him. From businesses contributing to his daily needs to the El Dorado Builders' Exchange whose members have gone above and beyond in wanting Michael to be able to live the life he so deserves. This addition will only be occupied by Michael, no spouse, and no children. It will be ADA approved, solely for his use.

Michael has been in the nursing home for quite some time - I can't help but feel that this has actually hindered his recovery in many ways. If there is anything you can do to expedite the permit process, we would greatly appreciate it. Michael knows that we have the plans, and a model, and that work has already begun. He (and we) are understandably very anxious to get the process moving as quickly as possible, and would appreciate anything you can do.

There is an increased urgency to getting the building process started. On March 30th, Michael and I are going to UC Davis to discuss knee surgery to help release the contractures and him entering the inpatient rehab program for TBI patients - We're hoping this will give Michael a bit more mobility, and therefore more freedom and independence. However, once he enters UC Davis, he is no longer a resident of Placerville Pines. And when the surgery, recovery and rehab are completed, he can't be released to a nursing home - UC Davis won't do that. So Michael will go from UC Davis to home, addition built or not. As I've explained above, we actually don't have the room to have Michael in our existing home, but this is where he will be living after UC Davis. It may be 2 months till Michael comes home, it may be 6 months. It all depends on when the surgery can be scheduled. This is not something we can postpone - it's actually a surgery that should have been done a year ago, but wasn't. Michael is anxious to be able to move himself around more, and be more independent. He is motivated to work hard and endure the pain he will have to endure, to meet those goals.

Thank you for your consideration, and thanks again for all your assistance.

Very Sincerely,

Valerie T. Misch

