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BY FAX : 202-727-6072
Mr. Geoffrey Griffis, Chairman
Board of Zoning Adjustment
441 4th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20001

Application of the National Child Research Center (NCRC)

Dear Chairman Griffis:

I understand that there were questions raised at the last NCRC variance request hearing regarding my standing to speak on behalf of the owners of 3204 Highland Place which is diagonally across the street from the school.

To clarify the record, please know that 3204 Highland Place is held in trust, with my mother and myself the co-trustees. My mother currently lives abroad, and I have durable power of attorney to act on her behalf, which I have done in renting the house to Hilary Rosen and Elizabeth Birch, and which I do when I pay the property taxes, now no longer discounted by the homestead and senior citizen deductions. If anyone is authorized to speak on behalf of the owners, I am.

Contrary to Ms. Rosen's answer during questioning, I do not recall ever speaking to her about the NCRC matter, so I could not have expressed ambivalence, and she has had no contact whatsoever with my mother, so she cannot have any knowledge of my mother's feelings (or her health), either. The implication that my mother's health might somehow render her interests invalid is offensive.

Although no member of my family currently resides at the house, and setting aside any sentimental attachments we may feel, my family continues to have a significant

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and very real financial interest in the future of Highland Place and the quality of life there, in contrast to our tenants whose connection with our house is due to expire in nine months' time.

To be completely unambiguous, then, the owners of 3204 Highland Place, across the street from NCRC, oppose the granting of the requested variance.

Sincerely,



Pia Newman