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**Here's my card: Children First**

Regarding the Jan. 12 letter, "Don't use 'child card' on me," my "child card" would read "Put Children First."

Children can't make policy decisions about their education, personal welfare or health care. Children can't pay the taxes for the schools, libraries, state and local governments charged to serve their needs.

Do we serve our children well with school-year cuts of 20 days, cutbacks at public libraries and no health insurance for half of them?

Linsee Hill can probably look back on a childhood full of many classes that our children can't take for granted. Did she have a seat in her classroom? Could she take music, languages, art and physical education classes paid for by taxes?

Perhaps she hopes to receive Social Security one day. It is today's children who will pay her benefits then.

Educate our children well. Keep them safe. Keep them healthy. They will bless our future if we pay our fair share today.

**MARY J. SYKES**  
*Beaverton*