

## Appendix 4-3

### Letter Requesting An Independent Evaluation Exceeding The School's Recommendation Of "Reasonable Cost"\*

(Be sure to keep a copy for your records)

(Date)

(Name of Principal)

(Name of School)

(Address of School)

Dear (Name of Principal):

We are the parents of (student's name). On (date you requested the independent evaluation) we requested an independent evaluation because we disagreed with the school's evaluation of our child. We disagreed with the evaluation because (reason why you feel the tests were invalid, inadequate, or not an accurate measure of your child's performance). On (date you received independent evaluation information from the school), we received information from you on obtaining an independent evaluation. Contained in this information was an amount (amount), which is your proposed reasonable expected costs for the evaluation.

While we agree in principle with your desire to contain costs, there are unique circumstances which preclude an evaluation for the costs you mention. (Give your argument here for the tests you think are required, e.g., although in general there is agreement that our child has a learning disability, no tests to date have identified any specific disability or teaching strategies that will help; or, although we agree that our child has an emotional impairment, the program based on current evaluations has failed to meet his or her needs).

We have identified a qualified examiner who has had success in (the examiner's unique area of expertise). Costs for this evaluation are expected to be (cost). We understand that if you believe these fees are unreasonable you may either pay this cost or initiate a due process hearing to prove that the costs are unreasonable.

Sincerely,

(Your name)

(Your address)

(Your telephone number)

\*All materials so designated in this section are taken from *Parent Manual - Education For Your Handicapped Child*, Advocacy Incorporated, Austin, Texas, 1979. Materials have been revised to conform with Michigan law.