

To the Editor,

Local savings, local control.

Sounds fair, doesn't it? But Governor Scott is not playing fair these days, nor is he acting responsibly. The Vermont Legislature listened to the governor, worked with the governor and developed a budget that was ratified by a vote of 173-1. Republicans, Democrats and Progressives worked together and voted together on this budget.

Then Governor Scott began to play politics and began to talk in sound bites that just are not true. His purported savings he claims will be realized by his proposal to negotiate a statewide health insurance plan for teachers are not substantiated. Missing from his sound bites is how he will take your local savings and put the money into the general fund. There goes our local control.

Governor Scott's veto of the state budget, H.158, erodes any public trust he might have. He is willing to shut down the State (no budget, no money, no services) to get his way on his proposal. He does not tell you that if we do not have a budget Vermont's credit rating will be damaged, meaning Vermont then pays more for money borrowed.

Government should protect and empower people, but Governor Scott is trying to take away our local power and our local money. I believe politics in Vermont should be based on the moral values of responsibility, empathy and trust. Governor Scott is not acting responsibly, he is pitting people against each other, and he is eroding public trust when he plays political games.

Local savings, local control.

Sincerely,

Char Osterlund

Springfield, Vermont