

STATE REPRESENTATIVE

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COMMUNITY • OPPORTUNITY • PROSPERITY

Dear Friends, June 17, 2022

The last several days I have been compelled to watch the hearings of the Select Committee on January 6. Sometimes it feels like rubbernecking on the highway, furtively staring at the wreckage of our democracy in the other lane. Other times I feel hopeful, amid the horror, that our system is working, that we may be pulling back from the brink.

But avoiding collapse is by no means assured. The stunning dysfunction of the Republican party at the national level and in other states threatens us all. If the Rs take over Congress and enough statehouses in the general election November 8, the possibility of an 'electoral coup' in 2024 is not to be dismissed.

Let me add, I have many Republican friends. I will not join the 'culture wars' to demonize all. But I do think it's important — vital, in fact — that Vermont buck the tide of right-wing extremism.

Phil Scott may not seem extreme; he enjoys wide support among Democrats. But 32 vetoes in 6 years, beating record-holder Howard Dean's 21 in 11 years, says otherwise. For a guy who claims to be all about science, he and his party continue to delay and deny progress on the climate crisis, habitat and biodiversity protection, opioid overdose prevention, firearm safety, and more. Joe Benning, another "reasonable" Republican (and candidate for Lt. Gov.), suggests not passing *any* new bills next session.

I beg to disagree. We accomplished a lot the last two years thanks to an infusion of Federal pandemic relief (see summary on <u>CampbellForVermont.com</u>). But there is so much left to do: building and rehabbing more housing; supporting childcare like the public need it is; recognizing the climate crisis as an economic as well as environmental disruption; investing in our communities as the key to long-term stability and affordability. I believe this is our job as legislative leaders.

I am seeking re-election to continue that work, to build consensus and implement strategies that invigorate our community, open opportunity and foster prosperity for long-term benefit of everyone.

I need help. St. Johnsbury House district is now "Caledonia-Essex", with Concord and Kirby. Concord, at least, is decidedly redder than St. J. And, with 45-day early voting now standard, the election starts in late September. I will need more mailings, more handouts, and more door-knocking, and all of it earlier.

How can you help?

- make a campaign donation to me (Campbell for Vermont Campaign Fund) and to other Democratic candidates
- join a group marching in Lyndonville's Stars & Stripes parade, July 16 (unfortunately I'm away!)
- put up a lawn sign (but not till late August!)
- join me for a walk or drive door-knocking in your neighborhood
- host a small informal gathering for me at your home
- step forward as a candidate for the CAL-ESX district in November (still can be done!)

Thank you for your past support and for anything you can do this year. I look forward to working together with you to build a better Vermont, and to sustain self-government for future generations.

Warmest regards,

Scott Campbell