

Amused by advice to Delauter

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June 10, 2014

I read Tony Miller's May 30 letter with great amusement. So much fallacy in so few words. Starting with the headline, "If Delauter were smart," which misstates the actual intent of the letter, which is, "If Delauter were a smart politician."

There is a difference and I believe the headline writer knows this, but wants to promote a different agenda. Kirby cannot be a smart politician, because he is not a politician. His slogan reinforces this: "Govern like a taxpayer." He is a businessman who has been elected to office. A politician tells you what you want to hear and then does something different. A politician speaks in nuanced phrases to attract voters and even deceive them. Kirby is not nuanced. He tells you what he is going to do and then does it. You don't need a Funk & Wagnalls to know his intent. If you like what he tells you he's going to do, vote for him. He'll do it. If not, don't vote for him. But don't expect him to do something different from what he tells you.

Lastly, being an elected official means you have to make tough choices. Tony's letter and many others lately assert that the current board does not hear the voices who want more funding for education. Perhaps they hear those voices but do not agree. Study after study, including a very comprehensive report published in March by Andrew Coulson of the Cato Institute, shows no correlation between increased spending on education and improved outcomes. Spending more does not help our kids. It may make us feel better. A politician will spend money where it makes us feel better. A taxpayer will spend money where it provides the most benefit for those who pay the taxes.