



Subject: 2020 election

From: **John Klar** <farmerjohnklar@gmail.com>

Date: Fri, May 22, 2020 at 4:50 PM

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To: <jason.gibbs@vermont.gov>, <pscott14@aol.com>, DEBORAH BILLADO <dabillado@aol.com>

Governor:

Jason Maulucci told me at the Reagan-Lincoln dinner that a primary challenge is a good thing for the Vermont GOP. It seems to be getting conservative voters animated. Hopefully this leads more of them to the polls in November.

If I lose the GOP primary, I will support you fully through November.

In the interim, I ask only a fair shake -- which means, I wish to engage fully in the American tradition of political debate, and hereby request that you agree to participate in at least three public debates with me (and presumably the other GOP candidates) separate from and in addition to any private televised events such as WCAX is organizing. (I could start with five debates and then haggle down to three, but let's just dispense with that process: three is minimum, at least one-half hour in duration per participant).

I expect you will soon announce your intention to seek reelection. I don't wish to have public rancor within the GOP more than necessary, and this includes challenging you to a series of debates to address the issues and your record. However, if you refuse to agree to this single term, why should I not simply run as an Independent? As it stands, you own the spotlight, and the media avoid me -- the consequence is my voice has been sidelined. I have everything to lose and nothing to gain running GOP if there are no debates, and this places huge pressure on me and my team to do something we really are loath to do -- secure open debate in the General Election.

Please don't make me take that unpalatable path. Either beat me fair and square, bow out gracefully (I will salute your great work, praise your service, etc. etc.), or own responsibility for compelling us into a three-way.

We must do what is best for the State of Vermont. I aver that I am the best qualified candidate to take the reins in 2020, as torturous as it will be. If you disagree, we must allow the voters to decide -- with fair and open debates.

If you fail to respond to this reasonable request by Tuesday (5/26), I will assume you refuse debates and I will proceed as my team and I deem most beneficial to have our insurgent voices heard. I have a Press Conference scheduled for Wednesday, unrelated to this issue.

Thank you, Sir.

Sincerely,

John Klar