In this age of jaded views about politicians and their questionable motives, we have a local political leader who rises above the crowd to reflect what is still good and worthy within the political process.

For the past six years I have had the privilege of calling Representative Rick Perales a good friend and knowing him as a devoted leader in our community. Representative Perales is a person of absolute integrity and honesty – his word is his bond.

Rick has a sincere concern for the well-being of all the people he represents in the 73rd District. I’ve watched him seek out those who disagree with his views so he can be a more informed and effective representative of all the people. I’ve watched him in action in the local community and in Columbus -- everyday Rick devotes his energies to listening, learning and taking informed actions to improve our region and the State.

With the election just days away, now is the time to make the right decision . . . retain a smart, dedicated, selfless public servant as our State Representative. We need more leaders like Rick Perales in the political arena. Vote for Rick on 6 November. It is a choice that will make a positive difference for our region!