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LETTER TO THE EDITOR: The 'responsible' Pa. budget is anything but

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To the Times:

With respect to state Senate Majority Leader Dominic Pileggi's comments about Harrisburg's "responsible" budget for hard-working people: (Letter to the Editor: "I strongly support autism funding," Aug. 13): Hard-working people also expect to send their children to quality public schools. But that's threatened with this "responsible" budget.

Some hard-working parents won't be able to work at all because their child's day care center will have to close its doors due to the impasse with this horrible budget.

Science shows that hard-working people who lose their jobs sometimes turn to alcohol, drugs and domestic abuse as a result of the stress of being unemployed. But our state's "responsible" budget whacks 100 percent in state appropriation from a number of mental-health areas – including a waiting list for services for the mentally retarded.

So many social-service areas are facing state appropriation cuts of 100 percent, just because no one is willing to give a little more to keep Pennsylvania's safety net intact and its economy growing. I ask our state senators and all of society, what's so "responsible" about that?

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