

**Q7**

Email address

[REDACTED]

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**Q8**

Phone number

[REDACTED]

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**Q9**

What are your past political activities (Offices held, candidate, volunteer, etc)

I ran for the NM House in District 57 in the 2018 cycle, and lost by only 217 votes. I am a graduate of the Emerge class of 2018. Prior to those activities my political involvement consisted mostly of volunteering for candidates.

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**Q10**

Why are you seeking this office?

As a teacher I see the needs of the families in our community every day in my classroom. I have also had thousands of conversations with voters. I hear what families need, and I want to work to address those needs. I will lead with compassion and a willingness to listen.

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**Q11**

**No**

Have you or your business, if you are a business owner, ever been the subject of any state or federal tax liens? If yes, please explain.

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**Q12**

**No**

Have you ever been involved in a personal or business bankruptcy proceeding? If yes, please explain.

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**Q13**

Have you ever been arrested, charged, or convicted of a misdemeanor or felony crime in New Mexico or any other state? If yes, please explain.

Yes (please explain):

When I was 22 I was arrested in another state for driving under the influence of alcohol. I took full responsibility for my mistake, pleaded guilty, and immediately paid the fine. I haven't driven under the influence of any substance since, and now advocate against DUI.

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**Q14**

State Budget: New Mexico's state budget provides for the state's recurring expenses such as general management, education, facility maintenance . . . etc. Other expenditures are not recurring, such as road construction, infrastructure expansion, ... etc. What do you think is most important for New Mexico to do when there is surplus revenue?

**Other,**

Please explain your answer:

Responsible stewardship of public funds involves a balance of spending carefully and saving for a "rainy day". I believe that we must keep an eye toward supporting New Mexicans with expansion of services offered. However, I also believe that we must invest in our future by investing in things that will keep us moving forward. I believe that we can do all of this, and still save for a "rainy day", if we're careful and considerate.

**Q15**

Legislator funds: Legislators are usually provided funds for specific projects within their districts. How do you think these funds should be distributed to legislators?

**Distribution based on economic activity and tax income production by county**

Briefly explain your answer :

Generally speaking, every district has a different level of need because of varying population numbers, etc. Capital outlay should be funded similarly to education: funded based on the population and the level of need. Conclusions of these levels of funding could be most fairly distributed based upon the economic activities of the counties within each district.

**Q16**

State Tax Code: On a scale of one (critical) to five (unimportant), how important is it that New Mexico completely restructure its tax code?

(no label)  
Comment:

**2**

The vast majority of families in New Mexico (those making less than \$49,6500) pay a higher percent of their income in taxes than a small population (those who make more than \$376,500). I believe that restructuring will help families live better lives, and in turn will benefit out economy because they will have more expendable income. Additionally, New Mexico's tax system should include accountability, adequacy, consistency, efficiency, equity, simplicity, stability, and most importantly transparency.

**Q17**

State Tax Code: Are you in favor of the current Gross Receipts Tax (GRT) system for NM or moving to a sales tax?

**Sales Tax,**

Explain your answer:

There are many exemptions that allow for a reduction in the amount of tax that New Mexico can count upon for funding our collective needs. A sales tax would be a steadier form of revenue.

**Q18**

Crime: Do you believe that the crime rate and the court's handling of existing laws (sentencing, catch & release protocols, etc.) in New Mexico negatively impacts our ability to attract new businesses and industries to our state?

**Yes,**

Please explain your answer:

To some degree, New Mexico (and certain cities in particular) have a reputation of being unsafe, and as a result businesses are less attracted to the area. I believe we need to enact responsible, yet compassionate, criminal penalties that discourage criminal activities. We also must do work that allows for reduced recidivism - such as mental health and addiction treatments.

**Q19**

Government Mandates: What is your position on government mandates as they apply to businesses?

**I oppose government mandates on business because they should be left to make the decisions that allow maximum profit and growth.**

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Please explain your position:

I support government mandates that allow us to transition to renewable resources. I believe we must be careful and enact mandates that take into account families that rely on income for jobs in the oil and gas industry. We must begin to transition to renewable energy while providing education and training for high-tech, high-paying renewable energy jobs.

**Q20**

Energy: NM's oil and gas producers were largely responsible for the dramatic increase in state tax revenue for 2019. Do you support effective land and resource management that allows these extractive industries to maximize production and budgetary support for NM?

**Other,**

Please briefly explain your answer:

My answer to this is similar to my previous answer: we must be responsible stewards of our environment, and as such I believe that we need to transition away from oil and gas - but carefully and responsibly. There are tremendous opportunities for us with renewable energy.

**Q21**

Regulation: On a scale of one (critical) to five (unimportant), how important is environmental regulation to protect New Mexico's land, air, and water?

(no label)

Briefly explain your answer:

**1 (Critical)**

We must act to protect our land, air, and water. These resources must not be depleted, and I believe that regulation will help us to preserve them.

**Q22**

Regulation: On a scale of one (critical) to five (unimportant), how important is it that New Mexico thoroughly review regulations to determine use and usefulness in regards to protecting citizens without unnecessarily overburdening business?

(no label)

Please explain your answer:

**3**

Regulations must be reviewed regularly and updated to reflect the current needs of the community. Our communities are not stagnant, nor should our regulations.

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**Q23**

Land Grant Permanent Fund: Do you support or oppose increased distributions (above the current 5%) from the Land Grant Permanent Fund?

**Support,**

Please explain your answer:

Upon this writing we are in the midst of the global Coronavirus pandemic. Given the current circumstances I can't help but think that we must tap into the fiscal resources we have available to ensure our future success. We have several funds - including the Land Grant Permanent Fund - that were established to assist New Mexico in the event of a rainy day. It will take thoughtful consideration to ensure that we balance the current and future budgets for our state.

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**Q24**

Employment Laws: What is your position on government mandated employee benefits like sick leave, PTO,... etc?

**Other,**

Comments:

I support mandated benefits for employees, but I also understand the burden these mandates place on some businesses. I believe that all employees should have the full slate of benefits, but I also think that these things must be enacted gradually and responsibly to ensure that businesses are supported in providing them.

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**Q25**

Employment Laws: In recent years, legislation is proposed each session concerning the state's minimum wage. Please state how you feel wages should be determined and explain your answer.

**Wages should be determined by government mandate, such as the recent increases in minimum wage**

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Please explain your answer:

Businesses across the nation are familiar with minimum wages, as are businesses in NM. Minimum wages are necessary to prevent employees from being under-paid.

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**Q26**

Workforce Development: On a scale of 1 (critical) to 5 (unimportant), how important do you feel is it that New Mexico's higher learning institutions offer technical and trade related degrees and certifications?

(no label)

Explain your reasoning:

**1 (Critical)**

This is one area that I think is critical for New Mexico to develop policy and provisions. Not only do I think that higher learning institutions need to offer these programs, I also believe our high schools need to offer vocational education opportunities. Not every student is interested in college, and we must provide opportunities for students to pursue education that will allow them to be successful in their chosen work.

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**Q27**

Economic Incentives: On a scale of one (critical) to five (unimportant), how important is it that state incentives for businesses, such as LEDA, JTIP and tax abatement include mandatory achievement requirements for use of the money as well as enforceable claw back parameters, if those requirements are not met?

(no label)

Please explain your answer:

**2**

Businesses must be held accountable for use of money intended for LEDA and JTIP purposes. There should be consequences, should a company not follow through with promises to actively participate in economic development and/or job training.

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**Q28**

Do you support an Article V, Convention of States to address proposals that would limit the power and jurisdiction of the federal government, impose fiscal restraints (balanced budget amendment), and place term limits on federal officials?

**Other,**

Please explain your answer:

Our nation is incredibly divided right now. I support the rights of each state, as well as ensuring a balanced federal budget, and term limits, however I think that a Convention of States under Article V may be detrimental to our nation at this point. A convention may give an opportunity to "shock" the system - but we've had plenty of that recently.

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**Q29**

Is there anything else you would like to share about your candidacy or your desire to serve the people of your district?

I have a few top priorities that I would like to address when I am elected. First, I will continue work already begun on education. In the next session we'll need to address a budget shortfall because of these economically trying times, but the shortfall should not be fixed at the expense of our children. Second, I will address infrastructure needs in our community, especially the need for additional broadband access. Third, I will encourage transparency in our government so that my neighbors can be confident that they know what's happening in state government, such as with capital outlay spending in the district.

Additionally, I am currently an elementary school teacher with 30 combined years in corporate administration, small business ownership, and teaching. I have been married to my husband Kevin, a residential builder, for almost 20 years and we have an 18-year-old daughter who is a rising sophomore at UNM.

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