

Q7

Email address

[REDACTED]

Q8

Phone number

[REDACTED]

Q9

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

I am currently a Doña Ana County Commissioner, District 4, and a candidate for NM State Representative District 37. I volunteered at Las Cruces Munson Center worked with Senior Citizens, and volunteered for CARE Cancer Aid Research Education.

Q10

Why are you seeking this office?

I am running for NM State Representative to continue to be a voice for my community and an advocate for those less fortunate. New Mexico needs a more transparent and accountable government. Our families are looking for economic security now more than ever, community fairness, and public safety. Never forgetting our most vulnerable, our children and senior citizens.

Q11

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.

Yes (please explain):
N/A

Q12

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

Yes (please explain):
Years ago, my family became the victim of fraud that led to personal legal proceedings. We were able to recoup most of our money and, thankfully, survived the trauma. Over time we were able to take back our lives and worked hard to recapture some success. Like so many people in our state and country, we were fortunate to live and work in a nation that respects the law and affords second chances.

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):
N/A

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:

My priorities would be to offer non-recurring economic incentives such as scholarships for graduating high school students for trade schools, tax credits for a business that hire trade school graduates, and grant/loan programs that incentivize opening small businesses and growing existing small businesses.

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?

Equally distributed to each legislator,

Briefly explain your answer :

Equal/prioritization This is a capital outlay. Each member of the body gets the same amount to allocate as they choose. It is great for Representatives in metro areas because they can pool funds and give millions to a new soccer team. But for rural providers, they must divide the funds over 3-6 counties with dozens of communities. So, I would support the prioritization of statewide needs. For example no running water and sewage in Navajo Nation.

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:

1 (Critical)

Any tax reform must protect the economically vulnerable among us and not progressively make poor and struggling families poorer. I would support a flat tax that exempts food and necessities but provides no loopholes. A simpler that fairer tax structure would protect state revenues without burdensome regulatory requirements.

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:

The current GRT system has become a regulatory burden and far too complicated. A flat sales tax would bring predictability and fairness to both consumers and business owners.

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:

New Mexicans deserve a fair and balanced justice system. New Mexico's crime rate is a top factor that businesses consider when deciding to move here. Senate bill 96 which prohibits employers to inquire about the criminal conviction on job applications is an example of moving too far in the direction of favoring criminals.

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.

Please explain your position:

I oppose the government mandating renewable energy like the Energy Transition Act. Our government should not pick winners and losers in the energy sector simply because of ideological preferences. A free and safely regulated market is the best indicator of when it is time to move fully to renewable energy.

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?

Yes,

Please briefly explain your answer:

New Mexico is a poor state and must do what it can to support its state tax revenue from Oil and Gas. This includes allowing methods for extraction such as fracking to increase production or make it profitable to open new production areas that would not have been profitable without fracking.

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:

3

I am all for the reduction of regulation just like President Trump did to revive the US economy. I do believe that businesses should be like any responsible citizens and do what they can to not pollute our air and water. A free and safely regulated system of utilizing our vast natural resources is one of our best tools for economic prosperity.

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:

1 (critical)

As I have said before, maintaining a free and safely regulated system is the best path to economic security while maintaining and protecting our vast but precious natural resources. We must consider the economic cost, impact on private property, and the environmental necessity of each and every regulation.

Q23

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

Oppose,

Please explain your answer:
Depleting the Land Grant Permanent Fund to fund excessive recurring spending schemes is not sustainable or prudent. Preserving and growing the fund is the best use of its revenue-generating power.

Q24

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

Oppose,

Comments:
I oppose government-mandated employee benefits. Employers should offer these benefits to be competitive with other businesses looking to recruit qualified job applicants. It should not be the governments' responsibility to determine work hours, mandated leave, or paid time off.

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 allowing the free market or supply/demand to determine an appropriate amount

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Please explain your answer:
Studies have shown that increasing minimum wages does not help low income workers. It leads to fewer hours and raises prices which makes it hard for low income workers to buy what they need.

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)

I attended trade school which gave me an opportunity to explore my options that led me to attend a University. College is not always the first or only option to be considered.

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)

3

Please explain your answer:

New Mexico needs to attract businesses to our state. Programs such as the Local Economic Development Act (LEDA) and Job Training Incentive Programs (JTIP) are critical components to attract businesses. The regulation and administration of these programs need to be competitive with other states and not succumb to political obstacles.

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?

Yes,

Please explain your answer:

A Convention of States is needed but there is always the fear of what gets put on the agenda of the convention and how those items are promoted. Term limits should be approved.

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 fought for small business owners by proposing the governor to open the state during the pandemic. New Mexico needs these small businesses to survive they are the heart and soul of our economy; the people want to get back to work so they can feed their families. When elected, I want to work with a Pro-business and economy coalition in the legislature to help restore New Mexico's economy and build for the future.
