

Q7

Email address

[REDACTED]

Q8

Phone number

[REDACTED]

Q9

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

No purely political activity. Have been a consulted as a water resources engineer, have prepared testimony to support state and federal legislation and appropriations on behalf of myself, the NM state engineers and governors. Have served in advisory capacity to several governors environmental roundtables, advisory roles in groups appointed by NM governors and federal secretaries of the interior.

Q10

Why are you seeking this office?

I have an unwavering belief in preserving and defending the constitutions of New Mexico and the United States as a guiding principle . As such, I believe that no government may change or restrict the constitutional rights of the people and must be bound tightly to recognize that God-given rights are inviolate restrictions on all our governments without exception. I believe that governments exist to protect the rights of the people and that only the people of this state and nation authorize the existence of our governments. Government exists and has powers given to it by the people, as opposed to a current notion by some that government grants the rights to the people and that government may withdraw the rights of the people as it alone may deem necessary. Broad attacks on our rights and traditional form of governing are the reason I believe more than ever that Americans must step up to defend and protect our federal and state constitutions. In my desire to run for this office, I will do all in my power to protect and defend our constitutions, our rights, and our form of government as set forth by our founders. I believe I can be most effective at the state level due to my career in the executive branch that gave me a thorough understanding of the operation of our state government.

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.

Q12

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

Yes (please explain):

Chapter 13 bankruptcy. as co-defendant, paid in full on time and discharged.

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.

No

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?

Surplus tax revenue should be used to build reserve funds

Please explain your answer:

I believe the state should be placing surplus funds in reserve for emergencies or reasonable revenue shortfalls. I believe the state's permanent funds should be reserved for future needs as intended, such as the severance tax permanent funds that should be protected fully from miscreant politicians and used only as necessary in the future to fund the states operating costs. Severance tax income will diminish in the future as natural resources of the state are depleted, hence it is imperative that building permanent funds to levels that will produce the highest annual interest income will create the most benefit to taxpayers by offsetting future income taxes necessary to produce operating capital. Those permanent funds may be extremely needed in the future when capital project replacements are needed at the end of the economic life of existing capital projects. It makes greater sense to fund additional capital project expansion as the population grows from income produced as interest from the permanent funds. I find the governor's intent to fund new social programs from the state's permanent fund to be senseless and devastating to future generations of New Mexicans.

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 :

Equally distributed because technically legislative districts should roughly be equal in population numbers. I oppose gerrymandering future districts to disadvantage regions of the state that are significantly and culturally distinct with different values or priorities. I believe that some capital projects by classification or type should be prioritized through regional planning to nonpolitically determine statewide priorities. An example of this could be water supply or wastewater treatment plant projects that would depend not only on regional priority but also on public safety from a statewide perspective determined from a professional evaluation rather than as political favors. Joint projects between districts could be undertaken if a project or need is established that jointly benefits two or more districts as determined by the representatives of each participant 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:

1 (Critical)

Taxes are collected from numerous sources, but taxes are ultimately paid by the consumer of the products and services offered. When a person buys a product or service from a business that pays tax, the tax is in the cost you pay. Businesses also have to hire people and services to pay the taxes they collect, so the purchaser pays that cost as well. It is cheaper on the consumer if pass-through taxes are minimized. Gross receipts taxes would be a great place to start tax reform. Another great benefit to New Mexicans would be a substantive income tax reduction that would also reduce the need for two income families by reducing proposed social programs to aid working parents. This means more mommy and daddy times for children, and less government tax and bloated government overhead and administrative costs; that is a win-win for families.

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:

Sales tax is a direct tax collected by the business at the point of sale and are paid by the consumer of the goods or services. There are operating expenses for a business to collect and pay taxes. Those costs are included in the price of the product or service sold to the consumer. On the other hand, gross receipts tax is a tax on all revenue of the business. Gross receipts tax does not take into account the operating costs, cost of goods and services sold, and business expenses that have not been paid at the time the tax is rendered to the governing entity. Hence, gross receipts tax does not correctly portray the profits and losses of the business and is always to the benefit of the government. My position is to eliminate gross receipts tax.

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:

Absolutely. High crime rates are definitely considered by businesses when looking to transfer or expand operations in New Mexico. I believe that New Mexico should consider limits to the judicial powers when a judge oversteps other authorities such as parole boards or by legislating from the bench. Legislation needs to be considered limiting the sole authority of judges to release violent criminals by clearly identifying criminal activities for which no release should be permitted.

Q19

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

Some mandates are acceptable but should be formulated through a review process that assures goals are met while not hindering or impeding business operations.

Please explain your position:

I oppose the Energy Transition Act as constructed at this time. Business options to choose alternate energy sources should be based fully on a decision by businesses to participate, fully embracing the concept of "free enterprise" as opposed to overbearing and intrusive government. If energy transition is truly a desire of the government, benefits such as tax relief or exemptions for a specified term should be offered. I believe that electric costs consumers will pay if implemented will increase on the order of 300 to 400 percent in the near future. As technology advances, costs of the necessary equipment will undoubtedly decrease, but New Mexicans should not be forced to pay the price of early entry into this field as the nation's experimental pig. I clearly remember when, years ago, northern New Mexico suffered a natural gas shortage in the middle of winter because the wind did not blow in the wind generator fields of Texas. I am adamantly opposed to the use of any Chinese equipment for transition to alternate energy sources for a number of reasons, but prominently in my consideration is the opportunity for the Chinese to gain control of our power grid through programming schemes for necessary electronic controls of their equipment, not unlike the issues that have been exposed in Huawei manufactured communications equipment. I believe that manufacturing should be returned to the United States. Also, I believe that new opportunities that New Mexico may be able to develop, including expansion to transform New Mexico as a terminal tourism destination. Nothing can spoil a landscape viewpoint faster than a field of towers or expanses of solar panels. I am shocked at the number of birds that are killed by wind generators. I have spoken with people that envision that New Mexico's open spaces could be used to provide a power source for most of the nation. I adamantly oppose turning this state into a power plant for the nation. New Mexico has been, and must remain, for New Mexicans to achieve a high quality of life in addition to, and not instead of, economic development to provide better standards of living.

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:

Absolutely a priority for New Mexico as we build for a more secure future and quality of life. Our public lands must be sustained for multiple use as opposed to single use preserves being proposed by environmental groups and trends in federal agencies that have superseded or deemphasized the management of federal lands for multiple uses. Another avenue that must be explored for state lands is to provide protection to multiple uses through tort reform.

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)

I believe it is critical to protect New Mexico's land, water and air. Having said that, I believe there are significant opportunities for deregulation reforms to enhance business opportunities responsibly. No

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)

Regulations are a significant impact on operating costs of business. I believe that an investigation of regulations may reveal dysfunctionality or competing interests with other regulations. An example of this may be competing interests to improve water supplies through land management practices as opposed to hands-off practices on wildland vegetation that increases fire and erosion. Many installations of solar panel equipment have the potential to greatly increase soil erosion, but the desire to install solar equipment should not be allowed more lenient environmental regulations that are not the equivalent of regulations required of oil and gas producers.

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:

The reason I oppose at this time is because I believe we need to avoid a knee-jerk response to the current economic shutdown the governor threatens to extend. I believe that protection of the permanent fund is the future capability of the state to fund our public schools, universities and hospitals after oil and gas reserves are exhausted or are no longer economically extractable. Having said that, I believe the economic situation that existed before the current shutdown was a good example of a time when an increase in distribution may be warranted. The growing economy and increase in GDP that existed prior to the shutdown are strong indicators to weigh regarding an increase in the distribution percentage. I generally believe that interest earned by investment of the permanent fund are the only funds that should be considered for disbursement to the greatest extent possible. I fear that the effect of management policies of the state land commissioner may result in a sharp decrease in grazing and oil and gas revenue. I admit that increasing land use for renewable energy may offset some of the lost revenue, but I am concerned with the long range damage to the land from placement of renewable energy equipment will strongly and permanently impact the surface.

Q24

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

Other,

Comments:

New Mexico requires employers to comply with its benefits policy or employment contracts. New Mexico does not require employee benefits. Benefit packages are offered by businesses to encourage employment stability. I support requiring employers to pay time and a half for mandatory overtime for non-exempt employees. I believe that additional benefit offerings should be in the purview of the business That are responsible for their own security, goals and business objectives.

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

Please explain your answer:

If New Mexico and local governments can establish considerable expansion of diverse business and industrial opportunities that provide greater career earning potential, many questions around the minimum wage question can be solved by people seeking new jobs to advance from entry level jobs to better jobs. I believe government should develop opportunities to expand job opportunities for its citizens. Expanded job opportunities will create an environment where wage increases will be necessary to attract employees and remain in business.

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)

New Mexico needs to develop light industry and manufacturing around existing natural resources including our workforce. New Mexico still had a higher unemployment than many areas of the country prior to the Covid-19 shutdowns, and basically that means New Mexico still has a workforce that has not been fully engaged to its potential. To that end, our education system has neglected many of our students that do not intend to attend a university, and the result is our chronic high dropout rate from our secondary schools. There is no acceptable reason for New Mexico to provide education early in secondary schools to produce technical and skilled labor training that is ready to enter the workforce at a functional apprentice or intern level upon graduation. This will result in greater starting wages as opposed to a base entry level. Additional post-secondary educational opportunities should be developed and implemented for skilled technician and laboratory careers that will enhance greater income earning opportunities.

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)

1 (critical)

Please explain your answer:

I am not well versed in these incentives, particularly LEDA, but I am aware of some of the benefits. Following from my response to the previous question, aspects of JTIP are essential to developing a job force that can provide an enhanced work force for light industry and manufacturing, and for laboratory and pharmaceutical businesses. Our state has the natural resources and labor force to attract these new business opportunities if governmental and regulatory processes are not overly restrictive. It is necessary to develop our education system in secondary and post-secondary training that will provide skills and a better income earning potential for New Mexicans that do not desire a university degree. Measures to produce enhanced capabilities should be introduced sooner rather than later in our education system. I believe introduction sooner in our education system will help also to reduce high dropout rates seen in New Mexico's high school because interest levels by students will be enhanced for students more interested in manual or technical work. Our universities produce quality graduates that are sought around the country; that may be a problem for this state because so many of our college graduates have to leave the state to find a job that reflects the knowledge and abilities gained. The state has failed its graduates if we cannot attract the industry, manufacturing and skill-based applications. Because of recent developments that have developed because of Covid-19, New Mexico may have a window of opportunity to attract businesses desiring to return to the U.S. if we quickly react by enacting and enabling our education system to meet workforce needs. Providing tax abatements for new facilities and remodeling of existing facilities to meet needs of new business investments can be great enhancements. Clawbacks are generally a condition of employment in cases of fraud, embezzlement or poor conduct that endangers a business, but poor performance of an employee or decreased profits may generally be a company problem such as failure to forecast product demand or failure to proceed to adequately address poor employee performance. I generally oppose clawbacks from employees except for criminal or deceptive practices engaged by the employee. Clawbacks in the performance of government contractors should not be permitted if contractual performance is not clearly specified. Clawback limits should be clearly established in contract documents. I believe performance bonds may better achieve the same result in guaranteeing contractor performance. Use of performance bonds may allow safe investments that will provide income potential for contractors to offset the price of purchasing performance bonds if such is allowed to be held in escrow.

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:

I am generally supportive of the Convention of States efforts to limit the power and jurisdiction of the federal government and place term limits on elected federal officials. I am concerned because term-limited elected officials have limited experience and time to deal with agencies regarding reform of entrenched agency policies and regulations enacted by agency senior career managers. I believe and have experienced in some cases that agency policy or regulation has exceeded or contradicted what appears to be the legislated intent. Inexperienced legislators could have difficulty in addressing overreach by simply not having enough time to deal with agency people whose careers will extend well past the terms of term-limited legislators. I have some reservations about a balanced budget amendment, particularly in light of national defense, natural disaster, and economic emergencies. All of these exceptions could occur outside the control of the government, and the government must be able to respond in an exigent manner that may not allow legislated solutions time to mature. This issue must be managed with thorough impact analysis and significant public information to inform the people. Also, I am significantly concerned with judicial overreach and do not believe that adequate attention is being directed to this problem.

Q29

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

My intention is to serve the citizens of my district and this great state to create desirable earning potential to provide a quality of life that truly reflects the wishes and life goals of New Mexicans. It is not my goal to change New Mexico to make it more like other states, but to create a state that has the effect of other states desiring to be like New Mexico. I am tired of being last in economy, last in education, last in opportunity for our children and first in crime and drug addiction abuse and illegal drug availability. I believe this is best achieved by developing our state economy to create jobs, by responsible development of our natural resources, by preserving the landscapes and multiple activities on our landscapes that New Mexicans desire, by protecting and defending all personal God-given rights of our state and federal constitutions including the 2nd amendment rights, by protecting life as promulgated by our faith and church, by protecting and defending our constitution to prohibit attacks on our republic that is founded on democratic principles, and by providing opportunity for quality of life for future generations of New Mexicans under our forefathers guiding principles of freedom.