

**Q9** What are your past political activities (Offices held, candidate, volunteer, etc)

Assistant to Bernalillo County Commissioner  
Member of Mormon Women for Ethical Government

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**Q10** Why are you seeking this office?

Julie Brenning has a clear vision for New Mexico's future. A vision that creates a safe community in which to raise New Mexico's next generation. Julie sees a future that promotes education and economic development for all its citizens. In her vision, Julie sees a community that provides access to state-of-the-art healthcare for its citizenry from birth to maturity.

Public Safety, Education, Economic Development, and Healthcare, these are the issues that require the expertise Julie cultivated as a graduate student, professional researcher, small business owner, and community advocate.

As a 16-year-old page in the United States House of Representatives, Julie observed first-hand the workings of congress and the importance of research driven policy and legislation development.

Julie earned her Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science at Brigham Young University and a Master of Arts degree in Asian Studies from the University of Utah where she also studied and became fluent in Mandarin. The research skills she cultivated during this time led Julie to positions with local advocacy, government organizations and community schools.

As assistant to Bernalillo County District 5 Commissioner Charlene E. Pyskoty, Julie worked as a policy and community issues researcher providing the data the commissioner needed to implement programs that would benefit constituents.

Julie has worked as the Director of Policy Research for Give Her Life, an international nonprofit empowering women in Asia. She is also an affiliate of the WomanStats Project, the largest database in the world on women globally. Julie presented her published research on policy in Asia to the United States Congress in 2013.

As a small business owner, Julie understands the issues facing start-up and established small businesses in Bernalillo County. "Small business owners tell me some of the most important issues they face include: identifying qualified employees; hiring and retention of those workers; employee pay; and access to healthcare," Julie said.

Julie and husband, Kurt, have been married for 9 ½ years and are parents to three young children. Kurt, a long-time Albuquerque resident, is employed with Sandia Labs. They attend the High Desert Congregation of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

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**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. **No**

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**Q12** Have you ever been involved in a personal or business bankruptcy proceeding? If yes, please explain. **No**

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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. **No**

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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?

**Surplus tax revenue should be used to build reserve funds**

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Please explain your answer:

The COVID-10 epidemic has shows us that as a state we need a rainy-day fund. We should put some of the surplus tax revenue into a fund that can be used for a crisis or rainy day.

**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**

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Briefly explain your answer :

Capital outlay funds should never be based on a legislators leadership, but rather the direct needs of the people. Some areas have greater needs and should therefore have greater capital outlay funds.

**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**  
Simplify. Tax codes should be as simplified as possible.

**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:  
I support taxation of consumption, particularly sales 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:  
I have a three part plan to ensure public safety: 1. Enforcement, 2. Intervention and 3. Prevention. As part of Enforcement, we need to expand and support the courts. They need better resources and ability to keep, prosecute and put in jail violent offenders.

**Q19 Energy:** What is your position on government mandates for renewable energy like the Energy Transition Act?

**Support,**  
Please explain your position:  
I support renewable energy as a big part of NM future. Solar, electric cars, wind, and other renewable energies are essential to develop in NM.

**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?

**No,**

Please briefly explain your answer:

We must look to the future for NM - oil and gas is an unstable revenue to rely on. As seen in 2020, with gas prices dropping, NM will lost on budget. We need to diversify the economy and support small and local businesses and innovation.

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**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)

**3**

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**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)

**2**

Please explain your answer:

I am a small business owner and know how important it is to have support without overburdening business. We also need to be responsible with the environment. I believe there can be an even balance in both respects.

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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**

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**Q24** Employment Laws: What is your position on government mandated employee benefits like sick leave, PTO,... etc?

**Other,**

Comments:

When it comes to government mandated employee benefits, I believe it is very dependent on the policy, who it impacts and how. If businesses are on board, then I am very supportive. The policy should not target small geographic pockets, but be general for all of NM so the economy can adjust.

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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**

**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 have training with NM Workforce Connections and working with our HS students. We need these trades and degrees offered to HS students and supported in any way possible. Tech is an important pillar of our economy that needs to be developed.

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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)

**3**

**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 fully support a balanced budget amendment for NM. Fiscal responsibility is essential for prosperity and rainy days. We need term limits on all government elected officials.

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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?

As a small business owner, Julie understands the issues facing start-up and established small businesses in Bernalillo County. "Small business owners tell me some of the most important issues they face include: identifying qualified employees; hiring and retention of those workers; employee pay; and access to healthcare," Julie said.

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