

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

Candidate for NM Attorney General 2018

Q10 Why are you seeking this office?

Because, if we do not make a real change now, then I believe that the state will be lost for decades. It could swing back but it would take decades to recuperate from the damage that has been done. My family lives here and my children need to have a future. If I don't stand for their future, then who will. Therefore, I am standing and fighting for my children and other New Mexican Children.

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**

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

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:
 Until we build a robust rainy day fund, then I believe that most of a surplus should be used to build that fund. Simultaneously, I believe that we could use a percentage of any surplus to supplement infrastructure costs in order to improve the business friendly environment of our state. However, that money should not be used for any "pet projects" by either side of the aisle until the solid rainy day fund is funded. The rainy day fund should be equal to at least 1 year regular budget (\$7b).

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 :
 It should not matter how much tax comes from a district or the seniority of the representative to determine the distribution of the funds. Each district is "evenly" stratified via population; therefore, the funds should be evenly distributed. There are other funds for exceptional improvements such as economic development 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:

1 (Critical)

One of the greatest reasons we cannot bring in new business is the tax code problems. We must reduce various tax forms (i.e. reforming GRT). We must understand that lowering or reforming the tax code is exactly how we increase the tax base (eg. Arizona v New Mexico).

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:

If we are going to have a "tax" on purchases, then it is definitely clearer with a sales tax as compared to a GRT. However, there should be a group of businesses that are exempt (eg. Texas professional services). This type of tax should be offset with a reform in other tax form. I am not for an even tax. We should be reducing taxes and reforming the code at the same time.

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:

Companies do a great amount of research when choosing a location for their business. A large percentage of that research and determination is based on the criminal activity which impacts both the business directly and also their opportunity to hire and relocate team members to the new location. New members will not move to a location with high crime levels and, as a separate point, a poorly performing school system. However, the poorly performing school system is one of the reasons we have a high crime rate. It is a vicious cycle.

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

Oppose,

Please explain your position:

The free market should determine the research, viability, and availability of these energy forms. I am in favor of good stewardship of the resources we have; however, it cannot be forced.

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

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

Briefly explain your answer:

I believe we must be wise and good stewards of the land; however, New Mexicans generally are good stewards without government interference.

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)

1 (critical)

Q23 Land Grant Permanent Fund: Do you support or oppose increased distributions (above the current 5%) from the Land Grant Permanent Fund?

Oppose

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

Oppose,

Comments:

The free market will determine if a business is successful. Mandating these types of benefits, artificially determines winners and losers. Many businesses would be shuttered due to the inability to provide the benefits, competition would decrease and consumer prices would increase. Not only would it be harming the consumer with higher prices, but it would harm the economy by significantly decreasing discretionary fund availability for a consumer in the market. The economy would shrink and business would close. The end result would be disastrous for the state and its economy.

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:

Free market will provide a check on business viability based on their compensation. No need to mandate in this modern era.

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)

Average age of a mechanic in ABQ is 58. There is a generation of people that will pass on in short order, if we are not training the workforce to provide those services, then we will be missing one of the main economic drivers in any economy, the makers and fixers. I have other reasons such as the manipulation of our education schemes that have "left behind", to use a common parlance, many children that do learn the way that we teach. More information can be made available if requested.

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:

3

I believe that encouraging investment in lower opportunity zones is not a negative. I am not sure that the economic impact has been proven to cover the cost of the program; however, with jobs comes a greater sense of purpose, worth, responsibility and a lower crime rate and scholastic inefficiency rates. However, every single deal must be stringently examined for true viability and effectiveness to satisfy the purpose of the program.

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**

Q29 Is there anything else you would like to share about your candidacy or your desire to serve the people of your district?

We the people are the true leaders of this country, I just want to the opportunity to serve we the people for benefit of all New Mexicans.