

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

Admittedly, I'm new to being directly involved in politics. I've always been the "expert friend" that people go to with questions on the subject, however. I've debated, spiritedly, about issues, and as a result some of my own stances have evolved into what they now are, and have learned how to better form my arguments.

---

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

To put things very simply, I've seen for awhile that things are going very wrong, and those charged with fixing things have been making things worse. From there, I made the tough decision to step up and offer my solutions.

---

**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. **Yes (please explain):**  
An accidental, or negligent discharge of a firearm. No one was injured by it. I served community service hours, and the case was dismissed.

---

**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:  
COVID-19 has demonstrated the wisdom of having reserve funds for emergencies. When there is an emergency, the people look to the government, who has been taking their hard earned money, for assistance.

---

**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 :  
It seems most prudent to incentivize and reward productivity.

---

**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**  
There are obviously states that have it worse, but that doesn't mean that we shouldn't make ours better. Having looked into starting a business at one point myself, I found myself intimidated by the tax laws and licensing laws. I think it is important to have a simple enough tax code that it never is an obstacle to a potential entrepreneur, and in general to have lower taxes.

**Q17 State Tax Code:** Are you in favor of the current Gross Receipts Tax (GRT) system for NM or moving to a sales tax?

**Other,**  
Explain your answer:  
It's difficult to say... and this coming after I've spent some time researching the differences between the two. It seems on the consumer end, the two basically amount to the same. I would listen to input from business owners on the subject.

**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, it does. Further, the market does adapt to any given situation. With that in mind, I would like the market to be focused on productivity toward a content society as opposed to a fearful one.

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

**Oppose,**  
Please explain your position:  
The environment is an important issue. I disagree, however, with government mandates. They increase costs and stifle innovation, and sometimes have the opposite effect of what people would expect. One of my favorite examples of this is ethanol in gasoline, either as an additive or as E85 (flex fuel). It's more renewable than petroleum products, yes... and it is a mandate that a certain percentage of an oil company's sales include ethanol. But... Ethanol increases emissions, decreases performance, and is generally harder on engines, including those made to handle E85... my own vehicle being one of those.

**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:  
So long as they exercise sound environmental and safety practices, I welcome them with open arms, and am grateful for the jobs and revenue they bring. I would also ask that they try to put things back more or less as they found them when they're done.

**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**

It's important, but in general, I don't like any kind of excessive regulation. If a business makes a mess, then they should be on the hook for cleaning it up, whatever that may entail. If a business is acting responsibly, I want as few roadblocks and burdens on their revenue as possible.

**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 should be as straightforward and easy to comply with as possible, as few as possible, and any regulation should have a clear goal and reason for its being. Again, I want it to be very easy to do business.

**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:

I fear how fast it would be cleaned out.

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

**Oppose,**

Comments:

I really want to support the idea... some years ago, my answer would have been that I do support it. However, I think it would badly hurt small businesses. I would certainly encourage employers to try to help out their workers if they are able to. Been in a position myself, with my wife being hospitalized and my son dying in NICU where I was grateful for the flexibility my employer had.

**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:

As the minimum wage goes up, so does cost of living. I understand the intention behind it, but am concerned with actual results. I also believe that allowing the lower wages would encourage more employers to train up a new hire rather than always expecting years of experience.

**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)**

Another lesson from COVID 19 is that the trades are some of the most important fields of work out there, and right now, the trades are in high demand.

---

**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**

This is a tricky one for me. If special conditions are given, a business should certainly keep to their end of the bargain... and if that bargain happens to be contractual, then yes. They should have to give it back. Those incentives are at taxpayer expense. However, I'd like there to be an environment in which such special incentives are minimally if at all necessary, and for businesses to come here in view of a long term investment.

---

**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 very concerned about the lack of fiscal restraint by the government, and will always support limiting their power at any level. I also believe that at the least, elected officials should be limited on consecutive terms - eg, let them live in the environment they helped create, so as to not lose touch with the realities of their constituents, for a couple terms before going back.

---

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

In general, while I understand politics better than the average bear, I really don't like them. I want to help get the government out of people's day to day lives, and to get rid of the sense of dread we get from listening to the news. I also believe that the best person to know how to run a business is the business owner, and that includes during this time of pandemic... ultimately, they have to deal with the consequences if they fail.

---