

Q7

Email address

[REDACTED]

Q8

Phone number

[REDACTED]

Q9

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

I do not have a history of political activity or organization.

Q10

Why are you seeking this office?

I was raised in New Mexico, as was my husband, and we're now raising our three children in Albuquerque. I am deeply concerned about our crime and homelessness rate, and also how difficult it is to own and run a business in New Mexico, specifically Albuquerque. I'd like my children to have a solid future and be able to stay in Albuquerque as adults, but I do not see that happening at this point.

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

No

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

Q13

No

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.

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:

Our current governor has ravaged our reserves, and as we all know, there are issues that come up that need to be addressed that are not always foreseeable, or foreseeable at the magnitude at which they manifest. It is imperative to have reserves so we can responsibly sustain and improve our quality of life consistently without worry about minor dips in the economy or revenues.

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?

Distributed based on a formula that recognizes either time in service or leadership role for greater distributions.

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Briefly explain your answer :

I don't particularly like any of these. Equal disbursements don't make sense, and how do you quantify some thing like "leadership role"? Finally, a distribution based on economic activity and tax income production by county could very possibly limit the potential of a higher level of economic activity and tax income production if a legislator was provided funds to institute new projects for their district. It would make more sense to review the cost of the projects and potential actual benefits, whether economy boosting or community uplifting, to the district a representative represents.

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

I'd have to delve more completely into the tax code to provide a comprehensive answer on this. However, a pretty basic issue that needs to be addressed is the taxation on Social Security benefits. We are one of only a few places that taxes Social Security benefits, which makes us a less desirable place for retirees. A strong retiree population comes with a lot of benefits for communities. Further, most people who are living on a fixed income struggle to provide for their family and often times must combine their Social Security with other benefit programs to survive. Not only does that complicate the lives of the SS beneficiaries, it takes away resources that others may need.

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:

As a business owner that provides both sales and services, I find that people from other areas do not understand why we tax on services as well as sales. That said, I would need to see how our tax revenues are broken down with regard to sales versus services percentages of State revenue.

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 feel very strongly about this issue. I wholeheartedly believe that businesses will never relocate here if they cannot find an employable workforce or bring with them a strong workforce. We are absolutely not competitive when it comes to cost of living, crime rates, and our public education services. Employers find it very challenging to recruit people to come to New Mexico, and I've known a lot of people who have come here and then left within a short period of time due to our crime levels specifically.

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.

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Please explain your position:

I think implementing a fair review process is reasonable, but the mandates need to have clearly stated short and long term goals so any committee that is reviewing the mandates can understand what the achievement is supposed to be. I believe it would need to be a committee made up of Democrats and Republicans, as well as business owners. Leaving out business owners would be a dealbreaker for me.

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:

I think any industry that props up the economy of an entire state should be given reasonable deference. We need regulation and respect for our land, but we also need to realize that without oil and gas our state economy is sunk. We also need to utilize those revenues in a responsible way to create long lasting returns.

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:

4

It is very important to take care of our land, air, and water. However, we have to be reasonable about it. There are a lot of environmental policies that are put into place, not just in New Mexico, for issues that are not really applicable to the areas where they were applied. We cannot have that. Environmental policies need to make sense where they are implemented. We also need to strongly consider the trade-offs between environmental policies that hogtie our economy and the benefits we can derive that mat allow us to expand conservation efforts with the funds derived from those revenue sources we allow to push forward.

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)

We cannot put forth policies that cripple businesses and have no real benefit to the citizens of New Mexico. It's just ridiculous, when there are no benefits to anyone and negative consequences for everyone.

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:

Based on what I know, the land grant permanent fund provides more than a half billion dollars in benefits each year. Increasing distributions may affect the long-term viability of our permanent fund. Before increasing disbursements, I would prefer to review and revise or budgetary spending.

Q24

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

Oppose,

Comments:

I believe employers, for the most part, offer their employees what they are able to offer them. For example, I pay maternity leave, which a lot of employers do not do. However, I am unable to offer other benefits that other employers do offer. Offering paid maternity leave and a flexible schedule is something that makes me competitive when it comes to finding and retaining staff. I think it is important for an employer to be able to design a work environment and benefits package that can make them competitive but not financially break them. The government should not be mandating Employee Benefits.

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:

The big argument is that minimum wage is not a living wage, however, I don't believe that the minimum wage was ever designed to be a living wage. Prior to COVID-19, our unemployment rates are (were) the lowest they've been in a very long time. There are (were) plenty of jobs, and employers will pay what it takes to make them competitive. When minimum wage requirements become overburdensome, employers will outsource labor and administrative tasks, increase automation, and implement permanent layoffs. Increasing the minimum-wage so dramatically, in the long run, does not benefit American workers.

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)

As an employer, I have often had people come to me in interviews and state they need a certain amount of money because they have student loans and a degree. They do not understand that their degree in sociology (for example) has no relevance in my office and that I am unwilling to pay more for it. I'd rather have people with work experience. We are in desperate need of trades people competent in welding, plumbing, electrical repairs, etc. It is imperative that we create outreach programs to our high school students and offer them mechanical and trades programs so they can enter the workforce with applicable skills that actually have real value.

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 it is important in any program (private or public) to have measures for success. I am not familiar enough with those named programs to have a specific opinion on how that system would work with regard to those LeGrand, but I believe it's generally important to have metrics to gauge success.

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 believe the federal government was never meant to be involved in every aspect of state and local policies, so I support regulating the federal reach. I also believe that unrestrained spending is out of control not only in the federal government, but also in our state government. Term limits would be very effective in reducing the amount of career politicians. It's important to have real people who live in work in our society, in the same way you are I live and work in our society, debating the rules that will govern our lives.

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 long-term resident of New Mexico, parent, and business owner, I believe that our current governing bodies are failing us.

There has been no discernible increase in our state national rankings, except for crime, in the past several years. We need new creative, critical thinkers in local government, as well as our state government. Something has to change, and we can only make that change by putting new people in office. More of the same benefits no one.
