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No

Q12

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 as well as one-time, non-recurring expenditures, such as road construction, infrastructure, expansion, ... etc. What do you think is most important for New Mexico to do when there is surplus revenue?

Other,

Please explain your answer:

I believe in a hybrid. Surplus should be used to build reserve funds to an acceptable and safe level and then used towards non recurring investments such as infrastructure and specific projects to improve our state. Non recurring revenues should not be used for recurring expenses.

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:

However, Projects submitted by agencies, local governments or non-profits should be thoroughly vetted for value and impact to the community before being awarded and bonds being sold. Many times money is spent in small amounts that add up to a lot, but don't really make an impact.

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)

This one of my stated reasons for running for office. People are leaving and taking their wealth and all they produce with them. Our tax structure is one of the reasons. GRT tax pyramiding increases the costs of goods and services in New Mexico when compared with surrounding states. State Income tax on Social Security as well as an increased property taxes each year keep retirees away. We should draw them in droves over Arizona because we have a better climate, but we don't. Over the years, New Mexico has provided so many exemptions to taxation that we have narrowed the tax base and increased the rate for those paying taxes. The ideal tax system is one that is broad and shallow (kind of like the Rio Grande!) This creates a larger tax base that is less susceptible to economic changes and challenges and is business friendly - especially for small businesses

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 would get rid of tax pyramiding, which is one of the main issues with GRT. One serious consideration to this change, however, would be that we would no longer receive tax revenue through businesses who provide goods and services to the Federal Government. The primary difference between GRT and sales tax is who pays. In GRT, the business pays. In sales tax, the consumer pays. The Federal Government does not pay local taxes or state

Q18

Crime: Do you believe that the crime rate and the court's sentencing of criminals in New Mexico negatively impacts our ability to attract new businesses and industries to our state?

Yes,

Please explain your answer:

Absolutely. This is brought up in my work each week. When I work with people who are considering moving here, among there very first questions is "Why is crime so high in Albuquerque?" The second question is "Will my family be safe?" . Every person you know here has either been a victim of crime or someone they know has been a victim of crime. One of my associates was working with buyers from out of town. On their second morning here, they called her to cancel the appointment. They had watched the news the evening before and decided they did not want to live here. They were afraid.

Q19

Crime: What are your thoughts on the 2016 Constitutional Amendment, Denial of Bail for Certain Felonies, and its impact on the state?

Other,

Please explain your position:

The intent of the Amendment was good. There are certain crimes for which people should not be granted release (bail). Prior to the Amendment, every defendant had to be granted bail regardless of the seriousness of the crime or danger to the community. But in application, the courts are doing a disservice to the law abiding public, particularly in the Second Judicial district where the intersection of the court rules for pre-trial detention, implementation of the Arnold Tool, and the Case Management Order has resulted in the a Catch and Release revolving door Justice System which is demoralizing to the Police and endangers the Public. The merit of the bail system is that it brings the financial interests of the bail bondsmen and the person putting up the money for the bail into play in putting pressure on the accused to guarantee appearance.

Q20

Government Mandates: What is your position on general government mandates on business operations?

I oppose government mandates on general business operations because these decisions should be left to business owners on how they run their business.

Q21

Energy: NM's oil and gas producers were largely responsible for the dramatic increase in state tax revenue. 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:

We are blessed with oil and gas in New Mexico. I believe this industry should be protected and offered pathways to increase production. Consider other resources we have like Uranium, Rare Earth Minerals and brackish water combined with the high number of PhDs, an Air Force base and Sandia National Labs. New Mexico has such potential. If we utilize our resources, including the people, we can be at the top of every list rather than the bottom.

Q22

Regulation: On a scale of one (critical) to five (unimportant), how important is it that environmental regulations be increased/expanded from current levels to protect New Mexico's land, air, and water?

(no label)

Briefly explain your answer:

4

In general, I oppose an increase in any type of government regulation. We do have to consider safety for the public, however.

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:

5% is the number that allows us to fund education without endangering the corpus. Given the current economic conditions, it would be foolhardy to increase the distributions from the Land Grant Permanent Fund.

Q24

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

Oppose,

Comments:

I believe that these decisions should be between the business owner and the employees. The Free Market is in play between employees and employers. An employee has the right to leave a job that does not provide the benefits the employee wants. As a small business owner, I do offer PTO to my employees and I did so before there was a mandate in place. I feel blessed be able to do this. My employees have been with me for up to 20 years. I am also blessed to have employees who won't take advantage of the benefit. Some businesses cannot afford to offer this. It either raises prices or puts them out of business.

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:

Higher minimum wages lead directly to fewer job opportunities for entry level workers by raising the first rung of the career ladder beyond their reach and abilities. Have you noticed at fast food restaurants that you fill your own drink or order for an automated kiosk? That is an example of one or two jobs eliminated by higher 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)

College isn't for everyone. Career Technical Education provides a pathway to a productive and successful life. We should be focused on outcomes and people's ability to support themselves and their families and contribute to our community. For too long we have promoted college as a means of success. Today there is startling lack of people going into the trades. Useless degrees rarely lead to successful outcomes. There are many people who are brilliant mechanically who don't enjoy the classroom or office setting.

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:

If we had a business friendly tax structure, these incentives would not be necessary. We have to remember this is the public's money. Achievement requirements are the mechanisms for protecting those dollars and guaranteeing that the company lives up to its commitments.

Q28

What is your opinion of sanctuary status for the state of New Mexico?

New Mexico should be a sanctuary state,

Please explain your answer: It is simple. Follow the law.

Q29 Support

Currently the governor can extend emergency declarations/orders 30 indefinitely. Do you support or oppose new legislation requiring legislative approval of any executive 'emergency' declaration beyond 60 days?

Q30

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

As previously stated, people are leaving. They are taking their work ethic, all they produce, their money and their children (our future) with them. Atlas is Shrugging in New Mexico. My goal is to give them a reason to stay.