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Q1

Candidate full name as it will appear on ballot:

David Tofsted

Q2

Political Party Affiliation:

Republican

Q3

District #:

Senate 36

Q4

How long have you lived in the district you seek to represent?

32 years

Q5

Email address:

dtofsted@gmail.com

Q6

Phone number:

575 202 7069

Q7

No

Have you, or a business you have been associated with, ever been the subject of a tax lien or a bankruptcy proceeding?

Q8

No

Have you ever been arrested, charged, or convicted of a misdemeanor or felony crime in New Mexico or any other state?

Q9

What will be your #1 priority and what is your plan of action to address it, if elected?

Repealing the 2024 HB 41 law. Lobbying fellow lawmakers on the cost to New Mexico drivers of additional surcharges on their gasoline purchases.

Q10

Recently, New Mexico has enjoyed record budget surpluses in the \$3.5 billion range. What do you feel is the best use of surplus funds? (Please select and explain your top priority for surplus funds.)

Expanding existing government programs. (Specifically, which programs would you expand?)

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Added to our reserves for the future.,

Returned to taxpayers.,

Other or comments::

The GRT could be lowered. Teacher pay should be increased by 10% (without increasing the school bureaucracy).

Q11

Do you support or oppose the use of the Gross Receipts Tax system currently in effect?

Oppose (Please explain.),

Other or comments::

The current system of pyramiding is not working. It is increasing costs to consumers and keeping New Mexico businesses from doing business with one another.

Q12

Do you support or oppose the current bail system our courts are using?

Oppose (Please explain.),

Other or comments::

Release of apprehended repeat offenders must be assigned bail commensurate with the number of times they have been arrested, regardless of the number of criminal convictions. Keeping such repeat offenders off the streets is vital to dealing with the current situation where a small number of criminals are responsible for an increasing number of crimes. We must acknowledge that for every time a person is actually arrested that individual may have committed many more crimes where they were not apprehended.

Q13

Crime has reached an all-time high in New Mexico. What do you think the state legislature could do to address crime?

Address mental health treatment.,

Pass legislation, similar to federal laws, with significant mandatory sentencing requirements for certain crimes and repeat offenders.

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Address addictions and other lifestyles that impact criminal behavior.

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Other or comments::

Address the competency law and pre-trial release of repeat offenders.

Q14

New Mexico has passed laws that govern employer-employee relations such as increased minimum wage and paid time off among others. There have also been discussions about Paid Family Medical Leave Act (PFMLA), a living wage, and shortened work weeks. If elected, what position will you take on additional regulation of businesses on issues like those mentioned?

I will not support additional government regulations on employer-employee relations.

Q15

New Mexico's state tax revenue is largely funded by oil and gas producers who operate under some of the most stringent environmental regulations in the country. Do you support or oppose continued oil and gas production in NM?

Support.,

Other or comments::

New Mexico's oil and gas producers are under a threat by our own state that heavily relies on this industry to finance the state. The new restrictive methane rules do not effectively change the balance of energy within the atmosphere but do affect the cost of energy production, and are counterproductive.

Q16

Do you feel that environmental regulations need to be increased or expanded from their current levels regarding New Mexico's land, air, and water?

Other or comments::

No. The scale of current environmental regulations are overly restrictive. Forcing residents to curtail or restrict their usage of energy or restricting power generation to certain types of energy sources is inappropriate and dangerous. The threat of blackouts and brownouts due to the Energy Transition Act, the ending of natural gas powered plants, and the restrictions placed on power companies to not have access to clean nuclear power are all instances where New Mexico's environmental regulations are overly restrictive and not based on the best science. As well, bio-fuels such as ethanol are not environmentally sound and affect the availability of food to an extent that is not rational. Ethanol production involves loss of food producing lands, wastes water, and is highly inefficient and costly. Far better to have a more reliable and more affordable food supply than the minimal gains of ethanol production.

Q17

What is your position on mandatory requirements for state-funded incentives that include pay-back measures if the requirements are not met?

Support.

Q18

Do you support or oppose changing the constitution and/or laws to require legislative approval for any emergency declaration/order lasting more than 60 days?

Support.

Q19

What is your position on abiding by the state constitution?

I support abiding to the state Constitution as written.

Q20

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

No.
