

#30

COMPLETE

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First Name: RAMIREZ
Email: RAMIREZ4SENATE@GMAIL.COM
IP Address: 96.72.14.5

Page 1

Q1

Candidate full name as it will appear on ballot:

Phillip Ramirez

Q2

Political Party Affiliation:

Democrate

Q3

District #:

12

Q4

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

13yrs

Q5

Email address:

ramirez4senate@gmail.com

Q6

Phone number:

505-366-7267

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?

Investing in Small businesses. Provide better access to State funding to help these businesses be successful. Working with the public education sector in my district to bring Trades into the high school curriculum. This will allow the children to become more educated in the jobs that they want to pursue.

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?)

'
Other or comments::

Mental Health and Drug intervention programs. Invest in summer programs for our youth.

Q11

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

Oppose (Please explain.),

Other or comments::

The NMBC does not support the use of the current Gross Receipts Tax system in place. Their policy proposition is that the tax code should be rewritten to replace Gross Receipts Tax (GRT) with a straight sales tax and eliminate the numerous special interest tax incentives. They want to eliminate all tax on any federal retirement income without earnings limits. Additionally, they want to require reporting and tax payments on all government subsidies for food, housing, etc. They believe that a 'clean, broad based and fair tax code' will promote business growth, employment opportunities and stabilize state revenue while making NM more competitive.

Q12

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

Oppose (Please explain.),

Other or comments::

The NMBC believes that there is a 'catch and release' bail system currently in place and they do not support the current bail system the courts are using. In 2023, they supported HJR 9, a bill that proposes several additional changes to current constitutional requirements for denial of bail. It would remove the requirement that detention without bail be requested by prosecutors and allow any court to deny bail rather than just a "court of record." This change would give magistrate judges, in addition to district judges, the ability to deny bail. Additionally, HJR9 would expand the types of defendants for whom bail may be denied by removing the constitutional requirement that only defendants charged with House Joint Resolution 9 – Page 2 felonies may be detained without bail and by permitting detention to ensure a defendant's appearance in court. Currently, the constitution only permits detention without bail prior to conviction when a defendant is found to be dangerous and when no conditions of release can reasonably protect the safety of the community or any individual. - We want to ensure that violent felony crime is what can be denied bail. Nonviolent misdemeanors should not be subject to denial of bail.

Q13

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

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

Other or comments::

As a small business owner, I understand firsthand the challenges our business community faces. That's why I'm uniquely qualified to advocate for you in the Senate when it comes to issues like the Paid Family Medical Leave Act (PFMLA). I recognize the importance of supporting our workforce, but I also know that we must carefully consider the impact of new legislation on our businesses, especially our small enterprises that are the lifeblood of New Mexico's economy. When it comes to the PFMLA, I promise to be your voice in the Senate. I'll ensure that businesses have a seat at the table during all discussions. My goal is to find balanced solutions that support both our workers and our business community. Even if the PFMLA gains significant support, I'm prepared to fight for your interests. I'll work hard to incorporate safeguards and flexibility into the legislation to protect our business community. As your Senator, I'm committed to fostering a business-friendly environment in New Mexico while also supporting our workforce. My experience as a small business owner gives me the insight needed to navigate complex issues like the PFMLA. I'll make sure that the interests of both employees and employers are considered in any final legislation.

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.

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?

Yes; we need more environmental regulations so that our state can do more to protect our natural resources.

Q17

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

Other or comments::

It is important to have additional accountability measures and mandatory requirements for state-funded incentives, but we need to ensure that those requirements do not negatively impact the communities these incentive programs are trying to help. Measures such as photos printed on WIC/ SNAP cards and other measures like this can help hold folks accountable while not risking harming those most in need of these services.

Q18

Support.

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?

Q19

I support abiding to the state Constitution as written.

What is your position on abiding by the state constitution?

Q20

Respondent skipped this question

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