

#34

COMPLETE

Collector: Email Invitation 1 (Email)
Started: Friday, August 02, 2024 10:11:31 PM
Last Modified: Saturday, August 03, 2024 9:30:02 AM
Time Spent: 11:18:31
First Name: SANDOVAL
Email: michellesandoval4nm@gmail.com
IP Address: [REDACTED]

Page 1

Q1

Candidate full name as it will appear on ballot:

Michelle Sandoval

Q2

Political Party Affiliation:

Democrat

Q3

District #:

57

Q4

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

24

Q5

Email address:

Michellesandoval4nm@gmail.com

Q6

Phone number:

5053739349

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?

My top priority is to expand access to affordable healthcare for all residents of our state. Many of our communities, especially in rural and underserved areas, still struggle to access quality care. My plan is to strengthen our state's Medicaid program to ensure that more families are covered, push for the expansion of community health centers, and increase funding for mental health services. Additionally, I will advocate for policies that lower prescription drug costs at the state level, including creating a state-run drug importation program and encouraging bulk purchasing agreements.

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.)

Other or comments::

With New Mexico experiencing record budget surpluses of \$3.5 billion, my top priority for these funds would be to expand healthcare access and reduce crime rates across the state. I would allocate a substantial portion of the surplus to strengthen our Medicaid program, support rural healthcare facilities, and expand mental health services, ensuring that all New Mexicans have access to essential care. Additionally, I would invest in comprehensive crime reduction strategies, including increased resources for law enforcement, community policing initiatives, and programs focused on rehabilitation and reentry. By addressing both healthcare and crime, we can create safer, healthier communities and tackle some of the most pressing issues facing our state.

Q11

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

Oppose (Please explain.),

Other or comments::

New Mexico's Gross Receipts Tax (GRT) creates significant challenges for the state's economy. The tax's broad application leads to "tax pyramiding," where the same product or service is taxed multiple times, increasing costs for both businesses and consumers. Small businesses, particularly in the service sector, are disproportionately affected, as they struggle to absorb or pass on these costs. Additionally, the GRT is considered regressive, disproportionately impacting lower-income individuals who spend a larger share of their income on taxable items. The system's complexity, with its numerous exemptions and varying rates, adds an administrative burden, making compliance difficult and costly. Overall, these issues can undermine New Mexico's economic competitiveness, potentially deterring business investment and growth in the state. I would support looking at an alternative way to make it less of a burden on the backbone businesses of our state. The last major revision took place in 2019 with HB6 which was pre-covid, I think it would be best to take another look and make revisions on a consistent basis.

Q12

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

Oppose (Please explain.)

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.

,

Address addictions and other lifestyles that impact criminal behavior.

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 support further government regulation of businesses to ensure that employees are treated properly.

Other or comments::

I support labor laws in New Mexico, including the enactment of the Paid Family Medical Leave Act (PFMLA), the establishment of a living wage, and the exploration of shortened work weeks. These measures aim to enhance the dignity and welfare of workers, ensuring they don't have to choose between their health or family and their job, while also boosting economic activity by increasing disposable income. Balancing these initiatives with the needs of the business community, particularly small businesses, will be crucial. I plan to work collaboratively with business leaders to implement these changes smoothly, supporting both worker well-being and business sustainability.

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::

I support continued oil and gas production in New Mexico, given its vital role in our state's economy and the stringent environmental standards in place. However, I believe it's crucial to balance this with a proactive approach towards environmental conservation and a strategic shift towards renewable energy. Investing in renewables and enhancing energy efficiency are key steps towards reducing our dependency on fossil fuels. This dual approach ensures we support our economy while also preparing for a sustainable future, safeguarding our environment for the next generations.

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?

Support.

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

What is your position on abiding by the state constitution?

I support using the Constitution as a general guide but don't feel we need to adhere strictly to it because it is old and very dated.

Q20

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

I am passionate about public service and becoming a public servant. I hope to take my passion for helping others down to the legislative floor to really work for the people of my district and the people of New Mexico. I won't know the answer to everything, but I will work really hard to utilize my resources and grow to be the best representative for my district. I love New Mexico and I am grateful for everything I have received from the state and those making positive impactful changes in it. Thank you for your time and consideration.
