



2014 General Election Voter Guide (10/29)

State Constitutional Amendments **VOTE: FOR or AGAINST**

CONST. AMEND. 1 FOR – Scheduling School Elections: Allows school elections to be held with other elections, thus saving money and increasing participation.

Proposing to amend Article 7, Section 1 of the Constitution of New Mexico to provide that school elections shall be held at different times from partisan elections.

CONST. AMEND. 2 FOR – Add student on board at NNMC. This should not be a Constitutional issue; however, it makes this policy consistent with other similarly situated higher education schools.

Proposing to amend Article 12, Section 13 of the Constitution of New Mexico to change the board of regents of Northern New Mexico State School by filling one regent position with a student.

CONST. AMEND. 3 FOR – Allows legislature to set judicial filing dates for retention. Removes this issue from the Constitution allowing the legislature to set appropriate dates.

Proposing an amendment to Article 6 of the Constitution of New Mexico to allow the legislature to set the date for filing declarations of candidacy for judicial retention elections.

CONST. AMEND. 4 AGAINST – Change criteria for “Urban Counties”. Designed only for Bernalillo County; increases government costs at county level.

Proposing an amendment to Article 10, Section 10 of the Constitution of New Mexico to allow certain counties to become urban counties and to clarify the majority vote needed to adopt a county charter.

CONST. AMEND. 5 FOR – Change management rules for Land Grant Permanent Fund. Allows for greater investment diversification.

Proposing to amend Article 12, Section 7 of the Constitution of New Mexico to preserve the land grant permanent funds by increasing the duty of care, removing the restrictions on the type of investment that may be made and increasing the threshold amount for additional distributions.

2014 Capital Projects General Obligation Bond Act - STATEWIDE **VOTE FOR or AGAINST**

NOTE: The NMBC generally believes there is too much fraud, waste and abuse in government and the only way to stop it is to stop the flow of taxpayer money to fund it. For that reason, the NMBC will sometimes advise voting against bond issues at the state and local levels until there is greater control and accountability.

We understand bond issues provide for improvement of government facilities and often provide jobs. We don't oppose either. The NMBC is not against the facilities/issues themselves, but is mindful that these particular projects pose significant issues that need to be addressed. [For detailed information on higher education buildings, click HERE.](#)

The bond issues provide for repayment of principal, interest and expenses through property taxes. If they do not pass, property taxes should go down. While some would argue that the amounts are small per property, they add up to millions of dollars that the NMBC believes should not be spent.

Bond Question A FOR – Senior Citizen Facility Improvements.

The 2014 Capital Projects General Obligation Bond Act authorizes the issuance and sale of **senior citizen facility improvement, construction and equipment acquisition bonds**. Shall the state be authorized to issue general obligation bonds in an amount not to exceed seventeen million dollars (**\$17,000,000**) to make capital expenditures for certain senior citizen facility improvement, construction and equipment acquisition projects and **provide for a general property tax imposition and levy for the payment of principal of, interest on and expenses incurred in connection with the issuance of the bonds and the collection of the tax as permitted by law?**

Bond Question B AGAINST – Library Acquisition. Please consider the tremendous decrease in library use due to the increased use of computers and the World Wide Web. We believe there will always be a need for libraries, but they are currently overbuilt in larger metro areas and it is time to consolidate some of these facilities. This would cut down on ongoing funding costs and allow better investment into a smaller number of facilities.

The 2014 Capital Projects General Obligation Bond Act authorizes the issuance and sale of library acquisition bonds. Shall the state be authorized to issue general obligation bonds in an amount not to exceed eleven million dollars (**\$11,000,000**) to make capital expenditures for academic, public school, tribal and public library resource acquisitions and **provide for a general property tax imposition and levy for the payment of principal of, interest on and expenses incurred in connection with the issuance of the bonds and the collection of the tax as permitted by law?**

Bond Question C AGAINST – Higher Ed Facilities. [New Mexico is significantly overbuilt with higher education facilities](#) compared to other states that have many times NM's population. Some facilities are underused or unused, like the UNM campus in Rio Rancho, but still cost taxpayers a great deal of money in maintenance and utilities.

The 2014 Capital Projects General Obligation Bond Act authorizes the issuance and sale of higher education, special schools and tribal schools capital improvement and acquisition bonds. Shall the state be authorized to issue general obligation bonds in an amount not to exceed one hundred forty-one million dollars (**\$141,000,000**) to make capital expenditures for certain higher education, special schools and tribal schools capital improvements and acquisitions and **provide for a general property tax imposition and levy for the payment of principal of, interest on and expenses incurred in connection with the issuance of the bonds and the collection of the tax as permitted by law?**

Bernalillo County General Obligation Bonds. VOTE: FOR or AGAINST

NOTE: The NMBC generally believes there is too much fraud, waste and abuse in government and the only way to stop it is to stop the flow of taxpayer money to fund it. For that reason, the NMBC sometimes advises against these measures until there is greater control and accountability.

We understand these bond issues provide for improvement of facilities and often provide jobs; however, we stand firmly against further expansion of libraries and higher education facilities as specifically noted. The NMBC is not against the facilities/issues themselves, but is mindful that these particular projects pose significant issues that need to be addressed.

Due to the incredible disregard for taxpayer money by Bernalillo County Commissioners Stebbins, O'Malley and De La Cruz, the NMBC urges voters to pay particular attention to County issues and the use of taxpayer money. [**A recent Albuquerque Journal article](#) gives an example of the behavior of Commissioners Stebbins, O'Malley and De La Cruz: <http://www.abqjournal.com/480086/news/commision-battles-over-50k-funds.html> **If the bond questions do not pass, your taxes will go down.**

Bond Question 1 AGAINST – Libraries. Please consider the tremendous decrease in library use due to the increased use of

computers and the World Wide Web. We believe there will always be a need for libraries, but they are currently overbuilt in larger metro areas and it is time to consolidate some of these facilities. This would cut down on ongoing funding costs and allow better investment into a smaller number of facilities. Shall Bernalillo County be authorized to issue **\$1,800,000** in general obligation bonds for library materials and resources for **libraries** within the County?

Bond Question 2 FOR – County Buildings. Provides for a new animal shelter. Shall Bernalillo County, be authorized to issue **\$5,741,000** in general obligation bonds, to construct and equip **County buildings**, including for public safety?

Bond Question 3 AGAINST – Parks and Recreation; Otter exhibit. ADA is the law & will be addressed; this is not the time to increase taxes for frivolous needs such as a new otter display at the zoo. Shall Bernalillo County, be authorized to issue **\$6,460,000** in general obligation bonds, to acquire property, design and equip, including compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, recreational facilities within the County?

Bond Question 4 FOR – Non-motor vehicle pathways and extension of Sunport Blvd. Shall Bernalillo County, be authorized to issue **\$9,070,000** in general obligation bonds, for acquiring property, designing, constructing and repairing roads and related non-motor vehicle pathways within the County?

Bond Question 5 FOR – Water and waste water. The storm sewer, waste water improvements are necessary. Shall Bernalillo County, be authorized to issue **\$4,500,000** in general obligation bonds, to acquire property, design, construct and repair storm sewer, waste water, and fiber optic systems within the County?

Mill Levy Question AGAINST – Absolutely opposed to yet another tax increase! This would be used to take control of more land.

Shall the County of Bernalillo, New Mexico establish a 0.20 mill levy for 15 years for the purposes of acquiring, improving, operating, and maintaining natural areas, open spaces, and cultural, historic and nature education sites within the county to protect drinking water sources, wildlife habitat, and agricultural land, including along the Rio Grande, and to allow children and families to get outdoors in nature, with all expenditures subject to independent annual audit and citizen review?

Advisory Question 1 AGAINST – Decriminalization of marijuana. Would conflict with state law; other states are showing issues of having approved this measure.

Are you in favor of the Bernalillo County Commission supporting County, City and Statewide efforts to decriminalize possession of one ounce or less of marijuana?

Advisory Question 2 AGAINST – Gross Receipts tax increase. The NMBC opposes tax increases. This would be an increase on all purchases of goods and services.

Are you in favor of the Bernalillo County Commission establishing a one-eighth percent gross receipts tax to be used for the purpose of providing more mental and behavioral health services for adults and children in the Albuquerque and Bernalillo County area, to provide a safety net system that develops continuum of care not otherwise funded in New Mexico?

General Obligation Flood Control Bond. FOR - It's important to improve and maintain our flood control facilities.

Shall the Albuquerque Metropolitan Arroyo Flood Control Authority be authorized to issue its general obligation bonds in the principal amount not exceeding \$25,000,000 for the extension, betterment, alteration, reconstruction, repair and other improvement of the Authority's flood control system?