

**Q9** What are your past political activities (Offices held, candidate, volunteer, etc)

Ran for APS Board of Education 2017.

**Q10** Why are you seeking this office?

I am running to protect our families from those who want to take our property, security and peace-of-mind. We can't tax New Mexican's into prosperity. Prosperity comes from setting up an environment that allows businesses of all sizes to flourish.

**Q11** Have you or your business, if you are a business owner, ever been the subject of any state or federal tax liens? If yes, please explain. **No**

**Q12** Have you ever been involved in a personal or business bankruptcy proceeding? If yes, please explain. **No**

**Q13** 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. **No**

**Q14** State Budget: New Mexico's state budget provides for the state's recurring expenses such as general management, education, facility maintenance . . . etc. Other expenditures are not recurring, such as road construction, infrastructure expansion, ... etc. What do you think is most important for New Mexico to do when there is surplus revenue?

**Surplus tax revenue should be used to build reserve funds**  
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 Please explain your answer:  
 We currently have a budget crisis due to loss in oil & gas revenue plus the forced closure of businesses due to COVID-19. If the previous surplus had been used to build reserves rather than the budget being increased, we would be in better shape now.

**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?

**Distribution based on economic activity and tax income production by county**  
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 Briefly explain your answer :  
 The people paying the taxes should receive the benefit of the taxes they pay.

**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)**  
 Our tax system is not business friendly and GRT exemptions and deductions are not consistently applied. For example, doughnuts sold in the bakery of a grocery store are not taxable, while doughnuts sold by a doughnut shop next door are taxable.

**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:

Our current GRT system is overly complicated and not business friendly. We need to move to a less confusing system to make it easier to do business here.

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**Q18 Crime:** Do you believe that the crime rate and the court's handling of existing laws (sentencing, catch & release protocols, etc.) in New Mexico negatively impacts our ability to attract new businesses and industries to our state?

**Yes,**

Please explain your answer:

Non-violent crime is being ignored but the costs of it are very high. For example, individuals who have their homes, cars and businesses broken into are violated even though they may not have experienced violence. They experience costly repairs to their property while many who are caught committing these acts seem to walk away without much consequence. Some one who's been caught has more than likely committed many of these crimes and hurt many people. It's important to take all crime seriously.

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**Q19 Energy:** What is your position on government mandates for renewable energy like the Energy Transition Act?

**Oppose,**

Please explain your position:

There is no reason for the government to mandate anything regarding energy production. The technologies that work and are sustainable will rise naturally.

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**Q20 Energy:** NM's oil and gas producers were largely responsible for the dramatic increase in state tax revenue for 2019. 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:

Oil and gas production is the life blood of New Mexico's economy and everything we buy and use in some way depends on this industry. New Mexico is a leader in this industry and we have much to gain from supporting it through effective land and resource management.

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**Q21 Regulation:** On a scale of one (critical) to five (unimportant), how important is environmental regulation to protect New Mexico's land, air, and water?

(no label)

Briefly explain your answer:

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No one wants polluted land, air and water. We can protect the land, air and water in reasonable ways without overburdening our businesses.

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**Q22 Regulation:** On a scale of one (critical) to five (unimportant), how important is it that New Mexico thoroughly review regulations to determine use and usefulness in regards to protecting citizens without unnecessarily overburdening business?

(no label)

Please explain your answer:

**1 (critical)**

Regulations intended to protect citizens in a particular way can often cause harm to them in other ways. It's important to analyze all the costs not just the costs on one side of the issue. When the cost outweighs the benefit, the regulation should not be enacted or eliminated if it already exists.

**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:

We must be very careful not to deplete our funds faster than we accrue them. I am against raiding funds that are intended to provide long term financial stability.

**Q24 Employment Laws:** What is your position on government mandated employee benefits like sick leave, PTO,... etc?

**Oppose,**

Comments:

Government mandated employee benefits cost jobs and increase prices for everyone. When a business has to pay an employee that isn't working (even if its due to sickness), it is harder to pay other employees to work. So, the business will hire less workers or hire them at lower wages to compensate for PTO or sick leave mandates.

**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:

Employees are able to negotiate a compensation package (wages and benefits) with their employers before accepting a job. Ultimately, no one is forced to accept wages they consider to be too low. If someone is willing to work for that wage, then it's an appropriate wage. Minimum wages laws just drive prices higher and hurt the people they are intended to help the most. For example, compare how much it costs for a small family to go out to eat in a city/state with high minimum wages. Eating out is not affordable in these cities/states. Just getting burgers costs as much as going to a "luxury" type restaurant in NM.

**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)**

It is important to offer a variety of programs at our educational institutions. We should also empower technical associations and other related groups to provide technical and trade related training and certifications. These types of programs don't have to be limited to higher learning institutions and could be more burdensome on them because they may not already have equipment or expertise in certain areas while technical associations may have an easier time to meeting the need.

**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)

Please explain your answer:

**1 (critical)**

Checks and balances are important in any program. If these programs aren't producing results, they shouldn't be funded.

**Q28** Do you support an Article V, Convention of States to address proposals that would limit the power and jurisdiction of the federal government, impose fiscal restraints (balanced budget amendment), and place term limits on federal officials?

**Yes,**

Please explain your answer:

It is not to our benefit for the government to continually increase its power. We have the responsibility of overseeing our government and are fortunate to have a means to do so. I support efforts to restrain the power of the government and it's officials.

**Q29** Is there anything else you would like to share about your candidacy or your desire to serve the people of your district?

I believe that our district should be represented by a regular person who will put the needs of their neighbors first. I desire to make it easier for New Mexicans to provide for their families through starting a business or finding a high paying job.