

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

Former County Commissioner
Workforce Development Board Member and Chair (Business)
Former Volunteer Firefighter
Former Housing and Redevelopment Officials State and Regional President

Q10 Why are you seeking this office?

I have worked in the public and private sector and have continuously worked to improve the quality of lives of New Mexico's citizens and citizens of the United States. I have a track record of getting projects done in collaboration with the public and private sector. I believe I can work with the communities of District 70 and the schools to make positive things happen in the interests of the people.

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?

Other,
Please explain your answer:
There is not a one size fits all answer for the use of surplus resources. It is important to work with primary stakeholders in the public and private sector to maximize the investments we make in New Mexico. Education is surely in need of improvement because if we are to attract people and investments to New Mexico we have to offer a high quality education at every level and the things people enjoy to live and dwell in a community. We should always be cognizant of our reserves and balance expenditures in alignment with healthy reserves as well. There is no silver bullet there must be collective work and coordination across the board.

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?

Briefly explain your answer :

We must be thoughtful about allocations of resources and leveraging them with additional resources to complete wholistic projects. Money given for the sake of allocation is not as effective as resources coupled and coordinated with other local governments and entities working to improve the lives of New Mexicans. There must be some formula or equity based approach so that the rural areas of New Mexico like district 70 are not left out of the equation. Economic and community interests and needs should drive highly coordinated projects to get the most bang for the buck. On their own no answer is a single solution. Economic prosperity is based on all facets of the economy inclusive of government work and private sector business working to complement the needs of the other.

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)

Its been studied and talked about to death we need a plan that we can implement over time to revamp the code. It needs to be done with the lens of the whole community in mind not around limited special interests.

Q17 State Tax Code: Are you in favor of the current Gross Receipts Tax (GRT) system for NM or moving to a sales tax?

Other,

Explain your answer:

Gross receipts tax is in need of change i am open to options including sales tax.

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?

Please explain your answer:

Crime and crime rate definitely impacts our ability to attract and retain business and industry. Problem is we have such high poverty rates and low graduation rates that these adversely affect the overall system. We have to come up with comprehensive solutions however building and filling more prisons cannot be the solution. We have higher incarceration rates than any other country on the planet thats a red flag that we have a systemic problem that needs to be addressed. We cannot address it by sound bite or pointing fingers it will take real work from committed people in the public and private sector combined. i am committed to making it better, other states have improved, are we all willing to commit is the question?

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

Other,

Please explain your position:

We definitely need to work on Energy Transition to more renewable energy period. That said, we must not dismantle the sectors of our state that have relied on fossil fuels for generations. Transition will not occur over night and must include those economies that will be most adversely impacted. We rely on fossil fuels for a large share of our budget it funds education and our overall budget period. In other states the fossil fuel industry has recognized this and are at the forefront of work to install solar and wind energy renewables. We cannot be blind to the reality that we need to preserve our environment but that preservation needs to be cognizant of the existing reality we have all lived for many years. It is not a zero sum game one over the other the transition needs to be a collective effort with new economic drivers based on new economic and functional energy opportunities and needs.

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?

Other,

Please briefly explain your answer:

I support maintenance and a transition of fossil fuels to renewable energies. I support and call for coordination between these industries especially in the the areas most impacted like Southeastern NM and Northwestern NM. Peoples lives and economies are directly impacted in these areas and so is the state budget we cannot stop overnight. I don' t support expansion out of these areas into new areas in the state on state lands.

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:

1 (Critical)

As a rancher myself if i don't take care o the land it won't take care of me and my family. I feel the same way about the environment. That said i also strongly support access and use of our public lands that is what they are for. Extreme policy for the sake of policy is not productive. I would think everyone wants to make sure our land air and water is protected, we also need to assure we have an economy to function in as well.

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)

We need to sustain and improve our overall regulations so that we can function as an economy too much is no good and not enough regulation is no good. There should always be a balance.

Q23 Land Grant Permanent Fund: Do you support or oppose increased distributions (above the current 5%) from the Land Grant Permanent Fund?

Support,

Please explain your answer:

Right now we need it for education we need to utilize it and improve our overall education system.

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

Support,

Comments:

People need to have benefits and support for their work any good business person does and knows this.

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.

Other,

Please explain your answer:

People need a living wage to live off of. In Santa Fe County where the wage was increased it has helped the worker. Some smaller towns and economies don't have the economy of Santa Fe we need to include business in our discussions but people need to earn what they can live on.

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)

I work in higher education we have lost touch with the need for technical and vocational training this will be a high priority if elected.

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)

I supported these projects as a commissioner and i would support as a Representative. There does need to be enforceable parameters i would not tolerate mis-use of resources.

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?

Other,

Please explain your answer:

I am willing to learn more about it.

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

I am a very straightforward person, our politics and actions have become too polarized. People line up at the left or the right, i believe the country as a whole are more moderate and want people in government and leadership to get things done. Its not about ideology of the left or right its about helping people have a better quality of life lets stop the partisan BS and get back to working with each other to get things done for people, all people from all walks of life and backgrounds.
