Email address

#### Q8

Phone number

#### Q9

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

Sierra Soil & Water Conservation District Elected Board

Truth or Consequences Municipal School Board Elected Member

Sierra County Republican Party Officer

Rebecca Dow for House of Representatives, Treasurer

#### Q10

Why are you seeking this office?

I am running for Senate Seat 35 because I'm concerned by the radical policies being pushed by progressive a great divide between urban lawmakers and rural New Mexico issues. I will work to ensure the traditions and livelihoods of Southern New Mexico are preserved, to protect our rights granted by the U.S. Constitution, and to promote the culture of our rural communities.

## 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.

Yes (please explain): None.

## Q12

Have you ever been involved in a personal or business bankruptcy proceeding? If yes, please explain.

Yes (please explain): None.

## 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.

Yes (please explain):

2006 Arrested for Driving Under the Influence (1st); Not Guilty Plea; Case Dismissed Without Prejudice

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

Please explain your answer:

Surplus revenues should be used to first pay back the budget reserves, drive the economy and protect our state's infrastructure. Any budget surplus should also be to the benefit of all New Mexican through tax cuts.

## 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

Briefly explain your answer:

I would support capital outlay reform to prioritize state wide infrastructure projects. There is currently a great disparity in government investments in infrastructure, most notably in rural communities- access to water, sewage, broadband internet, and roads.

#### 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)

Restructuring New Mexico tax code should be a top priority in order to attract businesses and grow our states economy. In an effort to attract retirees we must eliminate the unnecessary tax on social security; to attract businesses in an effort to grow our economy and build jobs we must eliminate corporate taxes.

#### 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:

Replacing the current GRT tax structure with a more business-friendly tax system allows New Mexico to be more competitive, in turn, creating more jobs and increasing overall revenues into the state.

#### 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:

New Mexico ranks as one of the most dangerous states in the U.S. In order to attract business, New Mexico must work to offer retirees, young families and new businesses a safe place to live, work and raise a family. Public safety continues to be a top priority in our urban cities and along our nation border. Legislators must develop tough-on-crime laws and support and resource our law enforcement.

Government Mandates: What is your position on government mandates as they apply to businesses?

Some mandates are acceptable but should be formulated through a review process that assures goals are met while not hindering or impeding business operations.

Please explain your position:

While the intent of government regulation is to create a public benefit, the unintended consequences often create an unnecessary burden on not only large corporations but small businesses, nonprofit organizations, schools, state and local governments, farms, and consumers and citizens.

### 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:

I support extractive industries that produce jobs and generate revenue for our state while operating in ways that are environmentally responsible. Additionally, I support land management industries including farming, ranching, timber sales, and hunting & outfitting that responsibly benefit from our land, water and wildlife while protecting our natural resources for the use of many generations to follow.

## **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)

Protecting our natural resources should remain a high priority for all New Mexicans, but it is important to understand that sound environmental management practices are critical in building sustainable businesses that profit from our states natural resources. Proper conservation practices allow for safe multiple-use of our resources. Excessive environment regulations often aim to prevents any use of our resources, preserving our natural resources as untouched and unmanaged, arguably resulting in more damaging environmental impacts.

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)

While the intent of government regulation is to create a public benefit, the unintended consequences often create an unnecessary burden on not only large corporations but small businesses, nonprofit organizations, schools, state and local governments, farms, and consumers and citizens.

## 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:

New Mexico's government already spends more than nearly any other state in the nation. Increasing the distribution amount of money we take from the Permanent Fund threatens the fund's long-term viability. This fund is not a "rainy day" account to tap when state revenues are short, it is a trust account designed to generate steady, annual income and should be managed as such for long-term profits, not short-term benefits.

#### **Q24**

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

#### Oppose,

Comments:

Government already mandates employee benefits including workers compensation, minimum wage limits, and social security. Additional employee benefit mandates ultimately creates more harm than benefit to workers because the cost of those benefits often ends up coming out of employees paychecks.

#### **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:

Businesses understand that they must offer competitive wages to attract the best talent and skill set.

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) 1 (Critical)

Explain your reasoning:

Trade and technical degrees save students/employees time and cost, while allowing our state to develop a qualified workforce with good paying jobs.

#### **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:

I support business incentives that demonstrate economic benefit to New Mexico and local communities.

## **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:
I support limiting federal government control while empowering state and local governments.

#### **Q29**

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

For more information, visit www.DiamondForNM.com