



# Guest opinion: Nella Domenici Proposes a New Day for NM

By Nella Domenici | Aug 7, 2024

New Mexico is a destination for criminals. More people are thinking about moving out than moving in.

Heinrich/Harris/Biden are responsible.

My vision is for New Mexico to be a preferred place for Americans to come to live, work and raise a family and the worst place to be a criminal.

Four years ago, cost of living was cheaper, energy sector was thriving, streets were safer, and border was more secure. America was energy independent and the leader of the free world.

I will be a solution driven leader who will demand and deliver more for our economy, safety, education, health care, and energy. This will bring a New Day in New Mexico.

## **Demand More from the Economy**

New Mexican families are living paycheck to paycheck. Eggs are up 44%, baby formula up 30%, and pet food up 23%. Our state's grocery costs are among the highest, and our wages are among the lowest. This is the "Heinrich/Harris/Biden squeeze."

Out-of-control spending on Heinrich/Harris/Biden's green agenda, over-regulation, obsession with raising taxes and their failure to realize our full energy potential are to blame for the 22% recent increase in the cost of living.

Businesses can't expand because an uncertain tax landscape makes evaluating long-term projects impossible. This stunts and stymies economic growth and job creation.

I will prioritize New Mexicans' everyday needs: Lowering Cost of Living; Creating More Jobs; Fostering Business Growth; Lowering Taxes; Cutting Bureaucratic Regulations; and Striving for a Balanced Federal Budget.

### **Demand More for Safety**

Heinrich/Harris/Biden's open border is a humanitarian, crime, and drug crisis. New Mexicans are dying from drugs and violence every day as a result. Their open border is a national security threat that makes terrorist attacks a matter of time. Heinrich's support of the open border has caused these issues.

Legal immigration needs to accommodate farmers', ranchers' and other businesses' need for workers.

I will aggressively prioritize: Securing the Border; Supporting Law Enforcement; Providing Strong Victims' Support; Increasing Penalties and Prosecution of Cartel Members; Stopping the Fentanyl flow; Ending Dangerous Catch and Release; Holding DOJ/FBI Accountable; Ending the Consent Decree; Establishing a Wildfire Defense Task Force.

### **Demand More for Education**

Education is the social justice issue of our time. For years, New Mexico ranks dead last in the nation in K-12 education--51st in 4th-grade reading and math; has the worst

dropout rate, lowest graduation rate, and 3rd-worst chronic absenteeism in the U.S. For generations, Heinrich has failed our precious children.

My husband and I, along with a group of bipartisan New Mexico leaders founded a charter school organization in 2016, Excellent Schools New Mexico (ESNM) focused on the most underserved communities in the state. It educates nearly 9,000 students in 13 schools that consistently outperform their district school peers. Every child deserves a skill set that promises a bright future.

As your U.S. Senator, I will be a voice for our students and prioritize: Establishing Accountability; Raising Graduation Rates; Increasing Reading and Math Proficiency; Expanding Career and Technical Education; and Increasing School Competition, Transparency, and Options.

### **Demand More for Health Care**

Our failing health care system is multifaceted. Too many families suffer under the financial weight and mental anguish of addiction, substance abuse, and serious mental illnesses. Our veterans, homeless and prisoners are victims with nowhere to go for help.

New Mexico has a serious shortage of healthcare providers and a paucity of specialists. The highest Medicaid population in the country makes practicing medicine here a charitable act, not a profession--one reason our doctors' shortage is so acute. Rural New Mexico experiences this the most. Child obesity leads to a lifetime of health-related problems including diabetes.

As your U.S. Senator, I will prioritize: Improving Mental Health Services; Lowering Prescription Drug Costs; Protecting Medicare / Medicaid; Upgrading Healthcare Quality and Delivery; and Stopping the Doctor Exodus.

### **Demand More Abundant, Reliable, and Affordable Energy Production**

With an “all-of-the-above” energy approach--oil and gas, wind, solar, nuclear, and geothermal—we will be a preeminent energy producing state. These long-term strategies must be affordable, reliable, healthy and achievable.

New Mexico is an oil and gas state and must play a vital role in energy independence.

We must bring down the cost of electricity and gasoline which have soared under the policies of Heinrich/Harris/Biden, Energy costs are influenced by supply.

Heinrich/Harris/Biden have restricted supply; blocked new leases, increased royalty payments, and passed regulations that increased consumers’ costs. Heinrich wants to spend trillions of taxpayer dollars on a green agenda that limits your choice of vehicles and appliances while driving up interest rates.

I will prioritize New Mexico’s energy production: Unleashing New Mexico’s Energy Potential — Particularly Oil and Gas; Eliminating Onerous Regulations; Harnessing Technology to Reduce Emissions, and Establishing a Comon-Sense, Balanced Electricity Generation Portfolio.

The dawn for a New Day in New Mexico is within our reach. It’s time to demand more. I am ready to deliver.