



VOTER GUIDE

League of Women Voters of Central New Mexico

PDF available online at www.lwvcnm.org or go to VOTE411.org for extended Q&A for the candidates listed here as well as unopposed candidate Q&A and more races in New Mexico.

LWVCNM: 2501 San Pedro NE, Ste. 216, Albuquerque, NM 87110-4122; 505-884-8441

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GENERAL ELECTION NOVEMBER 3, 2020

A General Election will be held on Tuesday, November 3, 2020. A General Election is held the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November in even numbered years. If you are a citizen of the United States, 18 years of age or older on Election Day, and registered to vote, you may vote in this General Election. Questions about the election or voter registration should be directed to your County Clerk.

Bernalillo County Clerk

505-468-1291

One Civic Plaza NW

Albuquerque, NM 87102

www.bernco.gov/clerk/elections

Torrance County Clerk

505-544-4350

205 S. Ninth Street

Estancia, NM 87016

torrancecountynm.org/departments/county-clerk

Sandoval County Clerk

505-867-7572

1500 Idalia Rd. NE, Bldg. D

Bernalillo, NM 87004

www.sandovalcountynm.gov/boe

Valencia County Clerk

505-866-2073

444 Luna Avenue

Los Lunas, NM 87031

co.valencia.nm.us/235/clerk

Important Dates to Remember:

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, there may be last minute changes. Please check the sos.nm.gov or vote411.org websites for up-to-date information.

10/06/20	Last day to register to vote online & by mail (5:00 pm). Early voting starts at limited locations.
10/06/20	BERNALILLO COUNTY ONLY: Same-day in-person registration begins at County Clerk's Annex at 1500 Lomas NW, Ste. A, Albuquerque.
10/17-10/31	Early voting starts at all early voting locations. (See inside for times & locations.) Same-day voter registration available during early voting from Oct. 17 to October 31. Same day registration in Bernalillo County is available from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. at these locations.
10/20/20	Deadline for absentee ballot applications 5 pm.
10/27/20	Recommended final day for a voter to mail in an absentee ballot. Because of problems at the USPS, we recommend getting your ballot in as soon as possible.
11/03/20	Election Day: Polls are open 7 am-7 pm; deadline for return of absentee ballots.

NOTE:

Completed absentee ballots may be turned in by the voter who signed the packet, a member of the voter's immediate family, or a caretaker at any early voting site. There will be absentee ballot dropboxes at all Bernalillo County early voting sites or a polling place on election day.

Completing Your Application for an Absentee Ballot - All registered voters in Bernalillo and Sandoval Counties will receive an absentee ballot application in the mail. Or you can download an application to fill out and mail in from www.sos.state.nm.us/voting-and-elections/voter-information-portal/absentee-and-early-voting/#.

1. Type or print your name, STREET ADDRESS (no P.O. boxes), and your year of birth in the spaces provided.
2. Only fill in the area under "Mail ballot to address below" if you want your ballot sent to an address other than the street address you indicated in step 1 above.
3. Sign and date your application.
4. Return this application in person or by mail within 48 hours after completion.

If all steps are not properly completed, your application will be rejected, causing delay in the mailing of your ballot. County Clerks are required to check this information and reach out to the voter if they forgot to sign it or fill in something on the envelope.

You can also request your absentee ballot completely online through nmvote.org.

This is your free copy of this guide to the election.

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The League of Women Voters of Central New Mexico is a nonpartisan organization that provides information about political issues and candidates for public office in order to promote greater responsibility and participation in government. Because the League is nonpartisan, it DOES NOT support or oppose any political party or candidate. It does publish and distribute factual information for citizens to use when preparing to vote.

The information in this Voter Guide was obtained by means of questionnaires sent to all the candidates. The answers provided by unopposed candidates can be found at VOTE411.org. Answers are printed exactly as provided by candidates through our online portal. Because of space restrictions, candidates are limited to a specific number of words. All candidates are listed in the order they appear on the Secretary of State Candidate List.

The information in this Voter Guide has been carefully assembled and compiled to assure maximum accuracy. However, the LWVCNM assumes no responsibility either for the correctness of the information furnished to the League by candidates or other organizations or for errors or omissions. In instances where there is a question of potentially defamatory content, the League will defer to the opinion of counsel.

To Register - When you register to vote, identification is required only if you are registering for the first time in New Mexico by mail. You can submit any current valid photo ID, a current utility bill, bank statement, government check, paycheck, student or tribal ID, or any other document that shows your name and current address with the registration form.

You can fill out your registration to vote online through the secretary of state’s Voter Information Portal (<https://www.sos.state.nm.us/voting-and-elections/voter-information-portal/>).

NOTE: If you have moved, changed your name, or had any other changes in your legal circumstance since the last election, you must reregister to vote.

To Vote - When you go to vote in person, either at Early Voting or on Election Day, you can identify yourself by stating your name, year of birth, and registration address or by presenting a physical form of identification such as a current valid photo ID or a document that shows your name and address.

Voting for Traditional Rural Precincts in Sandoval County: If you are registered in a Traditional Rural Precinct (outside of Rio Rancho or Corrales), you may vote at your traditional precinct location or at a Vote Center in Corrales or Rio Rancho. Voters who vote at Vote Centers on Election Day will vote on Provisional Ballots and not on a voting machine.

Voting on Tribal Lands: Because of the vast distances between voting locations and U.S. Postal Services, completed absentee ballots may be turned in at any Voter Services Center before or on Election Day. Polling locations on Tribal lands cannot be closed without written consent.

Early Voting and Absentee Ballot Drop-off Sites

Bernalillo County: Early Voting and Same Day Registration

10/06-10/16	Clerk’s Annex - 1500 Lomas Blvd NW, Suite A, Monday-Friday, 8:00 am to 5:00 pm,
10/17-10/31	Early Voting locations, open Monday-Saturday, 10:00 am to 7:00 pm:
	98th and Central - 120 98th St NW Suite B101 & B102 Alameda West - 10131 Coors Blvd. NW Suite C-02 Bernalillo County Visitor Center - 6080 Isleta Blvd. SW Four Hills Shopping Center - 13140 Central Ave SE Suite 1420 Holly Plaza Shopping Center - 6600 Holly NE Suite B-6 Los Ranchos Villa - 6601 4th St NW Suites E & F Daskalos Center - 5339 Menaul Blvd NE, Middle Suite South Valley Multipurpose Senior Center - 2008 Larrazolo Rd SW Tijeras City Hall , 12 Camino Municipal, Tijeras, NM Andalucia Shopping Center , 5600 Coors Blvd. NW, Suite C-5 Bernalillo County Visitor & Cultural Center , 6080 Isleta Blvd SW Caracol Plaza, 15200 Montgomery Blvd NE, Suite 101 Central Mercado , 301 San Pedro Dr SE, Suite B, C, D, & E Los Altos Plaza , 4200 Wyoming NE, Suite B-3 Petroglyph Plaza , 8201 Golf Course Rd NW, Suite D-1 The Shoppes at 6001 San Mateo , 6001 San Mateo NE, Suite B-3 West Bluff Center , 5201 Ouray Rd NW, Suite D-2 Desiderio Community Center , 117 Tribal Rd 7036, To’Hajiilee, NM, Chapter Meeting Room

Write-in Voting: Write-in voting is permitted on the paper ballot as long as the person you vote for is qualified as a write-in candidate. A write-in vote can only be counted if the name written in is the name of a declared write-in candidate and shows one of the following: two initials and last name; first name, middle initial or name and last name; first and last name; or full name.

Provisional Ballots: You will be issued a provisional ballot if your name does not appear on the roster when voting in person during early voting or on Election Day or if you are a first-time voter who registered by mail **and you did not provide the required identification**. In Sandoval County on Election Day, voters from Traditional Rural Precincts who vote at Vote Centers in Rio Rancho or Corrales will also vote on provisional ballots.

Sandoval County: Early Voting and Same Day Registration

10/06-10/30	Early voting begins at the County Administration Building ONLY, Monday-Friday, 8:00 am to 5:00 pm and on Saturdays 10:00 am to 7:00 pm Oct. 17, 24, 31.
10/17-10/31	Early voting at County Vote Centers, Monday-Saturday, 10:00 am to 7:00 pm, <u>except as noted below</u> :

Voting Machine Warehouse, 800 South Hill Rd, Bernalillo, NM
Corrales Community Center, 4326 Corrales Rd, Corrales, NM
Our Lady Queen of Angels, 1701 Tulip Rd. SE, Rio Rancho, NM
Community of Joy Lutheran Church, 841 Saratoga Dr NE, Rio Rancho, NM
Plaza @ Enchanted Hills, 3575 Hwy 528 NE, Rio Rancho NM
South Rio Church, 2003 Southern Blvd, Rio Rancho, NM
Italian American Club, 1565 Stephanie Rd SE, Rio Rancho, NM
First Baptist Hall, 6361 Hwy 550, Cuba, NM
Las Placitas Presbyterian Church, 7 Paseo De San Antonio, Placitas, NM

October 19-20 (Monday-Tuesday) 10 am to 7 pm:

San Ana Pueblo Wellness Center, 225 Ranchitos Rd, Santa Ana Pueblo, NM
Counselors Chapter House, 9828 Chapter House 14, Counselors, NM
Sandia Pueblo Community Center, 481 Sandia Loop, Sandia Pueblo, NM

October 22-23 (Thursday-Friday) 10 am to 7 pm:

Cochiti Pueblo Community Center, 255 Cochiti St, Cochiti Pueblo, NM
San Felipe Pueblo Senior Center, 5 Cedar Rd, San Felipe Pueblo, NM

October 26-27 (Monday-Tuesday) 10 am to 7 pm:

Torreon Chapter House, Hwy 197, Torreon, NM
Santo Domingo Pueblo Community Center, 1 Tesuque St, Santo Domingo Pueblo, NM

October 29-30 (Thursday-Friday) 10 am to 7 pm:

Community Resource Center, 129 Canal St, Jemez Pueblo, NM
Zia Pueblo Community Center, 135 Capital Square Dr, Zia Pueblo, NM

Torrance County: Early Voting

10/06-10/31	Early Voting begins at the Torrance County Administration Building , 205 S. Ninth St, Estancia (also the Absentee by Mail center), Monday-Thursday, 7:30 am to 5:30 pm.
10/30-10/31	Early Voting at the Torrance County Administration Building , 205 S. Ninth St, Estancia, 10:00 am to 6:00 pm
10/17-10/31	Early Voting at alternate Moriarty Civic Center , 202 Broadway Ave, Moriarty, Tuesday-Saturday, 10:00 am to 6:00 pm.

Valencia County: Early Voting

10/06-10/31	Absentee Voting Precinct (vote by mail) at the Valencia County Administration Offices , 444 Luna Ave, Los Lunas, Monday-Friday, 8:00 am to 5:00 pm.
	Early Voting Precincts (in-person), Monday-Saturday, 10:00 am to 6:00 pm, at:
	Valencia County Administration Offices , 444 Luna Ave, Los Lunas Belen Community Center , 305 Eagle Ln, Belen Bosque Farms Public Library , 1455 W Bosque Loop, Bosque Farms

Voting Offenses: Voters must report voting offenses to the County Clerk, the District Attorney, or Secretary of State. Voting offenses are:

- Any form of campaigning within 100 feet of a building containing a polling place on Election Day and within 100 feet of the door through which voters may enter to vote at any Early Voting site
- Using or possessing or carrying alcoholic beverages within 200 feet of a polling place
- False voting including voting or offering to vote when not qualified, voting in another’s name, voting more than once in a single election, or asking or helping another person to commit a voting offense



Guía de Votantes

LIGA DE MUJERES VOTANTES DEL CENTRO DE NUEVO MÉXICO

PDF available online at www.lwvcnm.org or go to VOTE411.org for extended Q&A for the candidates listed here as well as unopposed candidate Q&A and more races in New Mexico.

LWVCNM: 2501 San Pedro NE, Ste. 216, Albuquerque, NM 87110-4122; 505-884-8441

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ELECCIÓN GENERAL 3 de noviembre de 2020

Una Elección General se llevará a cabo el martes 3 de noviembre de 2020. Una Elección General se llevará a cabo el primer Martes después del primer lunes de noviembre en años pares. Si es ciudadano de los Estados Unidos, mayores de 18 años el día de las elecciones y registrados para votar, puede votar en este Elección General. Las preguntas sobre la elección o el registro de votantes

Escribano del Condado de Bernalillo

505-468-1291

One Civic Plaza NW

Albuquerque, NM 87102

www.berncnco.gov/clerk/elections

Escribano del Condado de Torrance

505-544-4350

205 S. Ninth Street

Estancia, NM 87016

torrancecountynm.org/departments/county-clerk

Escribano del Condado de Sandoval

505-867-7572

1500 Idalia Rd. NE, Bldg. D

Bernalillo, NM 87004

www.sandovalcountynm.gov/boe

Escribano del Condado de Valencia

505-866-2073

444 Luna Avenue

Los Lunas, NM 87031

co.valencia.nm.us/235/clerk

Fechas importantes para recordar:

Debido a la pandemia de COVID-19, puede haber cambios de última hora. Consulte los sitios web sos.nm.gov o vote411.org para obtener información actualizada.

- | | |
|-------------|--|
| 10/17-10/31 | La votación anticipada comienza en todos los lugares de votación anticipada. (Consulte el interior para conocer los horarios y ubicaciones). Registro de votantes el mismo día disponible durante la votación anticipada del 17 de octubre al 31 de octubre. La inscripción el mismo día en el condado de Bernalillo está disponible de 10 a.m. a 7 p.m. en estos ubicaciones. |
| 10/20/20 | Fecha límite para solicitudes de boleta de voto ausente 5 pm. |
| 10/27/20 | Se recomienda el último día para que un votante envíe por correo una boleta de voto ausente. Por problemas en el USPS, recomendamos que entre su boleta lo antes posible. |
| 11/03/20 | Día de las elecciones: las urnas están abiertas de 7 am a 7 pm; fecha límite para la devolución de las papeletas de voto en ausencia |

NOTA:

Las boletas de voto ausente completadas pueden entregarse al votante que firmó el paquete, un miembro de la familia inmediata del votante o un cuidador en cualquier sitio de votación anticipada pueden entregar las boletas de voto en ausencia completadas. Habrá buzones de votación en ausencia en todos los sitios de votación del Condado de Bernalillo el día de las elecciones.

Completar su solicitud de boleta de voto ausente-- todos los votantes registrados en los condados de Bernalillo y Sandoval recibirán una solicitud de boleta de voto ausente por correo. Los votantes en Torrance y el condado de Valencia deben solicitar una solicitud de boleta de voto en ausencia. O puede descargar una solicitud para completar y enviar por correo desde www.sos.state.nm.us/voting-and-elections/voter-information-portal/absentee-and-early-voting/# o llame al secretario de su condado.

1. Escriba a máquina o en letra de imprenta su nombre, DIRECCIÓN DE LA CALLE (no apartados postales) y su año de nacimiento en los espacios proporcionados.
2. Solo complete el área debajo de "Envíe la boleta por correo a la dirección a continuación" si desea que su boleta se envíe a una dirección que no sea la que indicó en el paso 1 anterior.
3. Firme y feche su solicitud.
4. Devuelva esta solicitud en persona o por correo dentro de las 48 horas posteriores a su finalización.

Si los pasos no se completan correctamente, su solicitud será rechazada, lo que provocará un retraso en el envío de su boleta. Los secretarios del condado deben verificar esta información y comunicarse con el votante si se olvidó de firmarlo o completar algo en el sobre. También puede solicitar su boleta de voto en ausencia completamente en línea a través de nmvote.org.

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La Liga de Mujeres Votantes del Centro de Nuevo México es una organización NO PARTIDARIA que provee información sobre la política y sobre los candidatos con el fin de promover mayor responsabilidad y participación en la gobernación del estado. Siendo no partidaria, no apoya ni se opone a ningún partido o candidato. Se encarga de publicar y distribuir información útil para que el ciudadano se prepare para votar.

La información en esta guía de votantes se obtuvo por medio de cuestionarios enviados a todos los candidatos, con excepción a los que se presentan sin oposición. Las respuestas están impresas exactamente como fueron recibidas por la Liga. Debido a las limitaciones de espacio, las respuestas de los candidatos han sido restringidas a un cierto número de palabras. Además, convertimos listas en las respuestas a párrafos. Aquí se mencionan todos los candidatos en el orden que aparecerán en la papeleta del 3 de Noviembre de 2020.

La información presentada en esta guía de votantes ha sido compilada con cuidado para asegurar la mayor precisión posible. Sin embargo, la LWVCNM y la Fondo de Educación de la LWVCNM no asumen ninguna responsabilidad por la exactitud de toda la información suministrada a la Liga de los candidatos u otras organizaciones, ni por errores u omisiones. En casos donde existiera dudas de si el contenido fuera difamatorio, la Liga se apoyará en sus abogados.

Registrarse: cuando se registra para votar, se requiere identificación solo si se registra por primera vez en Nuevo México por correo. Puede enviar cualquier identificación con fotografía válida actual, una factura de servicios públicos, extracto bancario, cheque del gobierno, cheque de pago, identificación de estudiante o tribal, o cualquier otro documento que muestre su nombre y dirección actual con el formulario de registro.

Puede completar su registro para votar en línea a través del Portal de información para votantes del secretario de estado (<https://www.sos.state.nm.us/voting-and-elections/voter-information-portal/>).

NOTA: Si se mudó, cambió su nombre o tuvo otros cambios en sus circunstancias legales desde la última elección, debe volver a registrarse para votar.

Votar - Cuando vaya a votar en persona, ya sea en la votación anticipada o el día de las elecciones, puede identificarse indicando su nombre, año de nacimiento y dirección de registro o presentando una forma física de identificación, como una identificación con foto válida actual o una documento que muestra su nombre y dirección.

Votar por distritos rurales tradicionales en el condado de Sandoval: si está registrado en un Recinto Rural Tradicional (fuera de Río Rancho o Corrales), puede votar en la ubicación de su distrito electoral tradicional o en un Centro de Votación en Corrales o Río Rancho. Los votantes que voten en los centros de votación el día de las elecciones votarán Boletas provisionales y no en una máquina de votación.

Votacion en tierras tribales: debido a las grandes distancias entre los lugares de votación y los servicios postales de los EE. UU., Las boletas de votación en ausencia completadas se pueden entregar en cualquier Centro de Servicios al Votante antes o el día de las elecciones. Los lugares de votación en tierras tribales no se pueden cerrar sin consentimiento por escrito.

Early Voting and Absentee Ballot Drop-off Sites

Bernalillo County: Early Voting and Same Day Registration

10/06-10/16	Clerk’s Annex - 1500 Lomas Blvd NW, Suite A, Monday-Friday, 8:00 am to 5:00 pm,
10/17-10/31	Early Voting locations, open Monday-Saturday, 10:00 am to 7:00 pm:
	98th and Central - 120 98th St NW Suite B101 & B102
	Alameda West - 10131 Coors Blvd. NW Suite C-02
	Bernalillo County Visitor Center - 6080 Isleta Blvd. SW
	Four Hills Shopping Center - 13140 Central Ave SE Suite 1420
	Holly Plaza Shopping Center - 6600 Holly NE Suite B-6
	Los Ranchos Villa - 6601 4th St NW Suites E & F
	Daskalos Center - 5339 Menaul Blvd NE, Middle Suite
	South Valley Multipurpose Senior Center - 2008 Larrazolo Rd SW
	Tijeras City Hall , 12 Camino Municipal, Tijeras, NM
	Andalucia Shopping Center , 5600 Coors Blvd. NW, Suite C-5
	Bernalillo County Visitor & Cultural Center , 6080 Isleta Blvd SW
	Caracol Plaza, 15200 Montgomery Blvd NE, Suite 101
	Central Mercado , 301 San Pedro Dr SE, Suite B, C, D, & E
	Los Altos Plaza , 4200 Wyoming NE, Suite B-3
	Petroglyph Plaza , 8201 Golf Course Rd NW, Suite D-1
	The Shoppes at 6001 San Mateo , 6001 San Mateo NE, Suite B-3
	West Bluff Center , 5201 Ouray Rd NW, Suite D-2
	Desiderio Community Center , 117 Tribal Rd 7036, To’Hajiilee, NM, Chapter Meeting Room

Voto por escrito:Se permite el voto por escrito en la boleta de papel siempre que la persona por el que vota está calificado como candidato por escrito. Un voto por escrito solo se puede contar si el nombre escrito es el nombre de un candidato escrito declarado y muestra uno de lo siguiente: dos iniciales y apellido; nombre, inicial del segundo nombre o nombre y apellido nombre; nombre y apellido; o nombre completo.

Boletas provisionales: se le emitirá una boleta provisional si su nombre no apareacer en la lista al votar en persona durante la votación anticipada o el día de las elecciones o si es un votante por primera vez que se registró por correo y no proporcionó el identificación requerida. En el condado de Sandoval, el día de las elecciones, los votantes de Los Recintos Rurales Tradicionales que votan en los Centros de Votación en Río Rancho o Corrales también votar en boletas provisionales.

Sandoval County: Early Voting and Same Day Registration

10/06-10/30	Early voting begins at the County Administration Building ONLY, Monday-Friday, 8:00 am to 5:00 pm and on Saturdays 10:00 am to 7:00 pm Oct. 17, 24, 31.
10/17-10/31	Early voting at County Vote Centers, Monday-Saturday, 10:00 am to 7:00 pm, <u>except as noted below:</u>

Voting Machine Warehouse, 800 South Hill Rd, Bernalillo, NM
Corrales Community Center, 4326 Corrales Rd, Corrales, NM
Our Lady Queen of Angels, 1701 Tulip Rd. SE, Río Rancho, NM
Community of Joy Lutheran Church, 841 Saratoga Dr NE, Río Rancho, NM
Plaza @ Enchanted Hills, 3575 Hwy 528 NE, Río Rancho NM
South Río Church, 2003 Southern Blvd, Río Rancho, NM
Italian American Club, 1565 Stephanie Rd SE, Río Rancho, NM
First Baptist Hall, 6361 Hwy 550, Cuba, NM
Las Placitas Presbyterian Church, 7 Paseo De San Antonio, Placitas, NM

19-20 de octubre (lunes a martes) de 10 a. M. A 7 p. M.:

San Ana Pueblo Wellness Center, 225 Ranchitos Rd, Santa Ana Pueblo, NM
Counselors Chapter House, 9828 Chapter House 14, Counselors, NM
Sandia Pueblo Community Center, 481 Sandia Loop, Sandia Pueblo, NM

22-23 de octubre (jueves a viernes) de 10 a. M. A 7 p. M.

Cochiti Pueblo Community Center, 255 Cochiti St, Cochiti Pueblo, NM
San Felipe Pueblo Senior Center, 5 Cedar Rd, San Felipe Pueblo, NM

26-27 de octubre (lunes a martes) de 10 a. M. A 7 p. M.

Torreon Chapter House, Hwy 197, Torreon, NM
Santo Domingo Pueblo Community Center, 1 Tesuque St, Santo Domingo Pueblo, NM

29-30 de octubre (jueves a viernes) de 10 a. M. A 7 p. M.

Community Resource Center, 129 Canal St, Jemez Pueblo, NM
Zia Pueblo Community Center, 135 Capital Square Dr, Zia Pueblo, NM

Torrance County: Early Voting

10/06-10/31	Early Voting begins at the Torrance County Administration Building , 205 S. Ninth St, Estancia (also the Absentee by Mail center), Monday-Thursday, 7:30 am to 5:30 pm.
10/30-10/31	Early Voting at the Torrance County Administration Building , 205 S. Ninth St, Estancia, 10:00 am to 6:00 pm
10/17-10/31	Early Voting at alternate Moriarty Civic Center , 202 Broadway Ave, Moriarty, Tuesday-Saturday, 10:00 am to 6:00 pm.

Valencia County: Early Voting

10/06-10/31	Absentee Voting Precinct (vote by mail) at the Valencia County Administration Offices , 444 Luna Ave, Los Lunas, Monday-Friday, 8:00 am to 5:00 pm.
	Early Voting Precincts (in-person), Monday-Saturday, 10:00 am to 6:00 pm, at:
	Valencia County Administration Offices , 444 Luna Ave, Los Lunas Belen Community Center , 305 Eagle Ln, Belen Bosque Farms Public Library , 1455 W Bosque Loop, Bosque Farms

Infracciones de voto: Los votantes deben informar las infracciones de voto al secretario del condado, el distrito Abogado o Secretario de Estado. Las infracciones al voto son:

- Cualquier forma de campaña dentro de los 100 pies de un edificio que contenga un lugar de votación en El día de las elecciones y a menos de 100 pies de la puerta por la que los votantes pueden votar en cualquier sitio de votación anticipada
- Usar, poseer o llevar bebidas alcohólicas a menos de 200 pies de una casilla electoral sitio
- Votación falsa que incluye votar u ofrecer votar cuando no está calificado, votar en el nombre de otra persona, votando más de una vez en una sola elección, o pidiendo o ayudando otra persona para cometer un delito de voto

FEDERAL OFFICES

PRESIDENT AND VICE PRESIDENT

President and Vice President are elected together for four-year terms. The candidates qualified to appear on the New Mexico ballot are as follows shown in the order in which they will appear on the ballot: See Vote411.org for answers to questions from some of these candidates.

HOWIE HAWKINS and ANGELA NICOLE WALKER Party: Green

JO JORGENSEN and JEREMY “Spike” COHEN Party: Libertarian

JOSEPH R. BIDEN and KAMALA D. HARRIS Party: Democrat

SHEILA “Samm” TITTLE and DAVID CARL SANDIGE Party: Constitution




DONALD J. TRUMP and MIKE PENCE Party: Republican

GLORIA LA RIVA and SUNIL FREEMAN Party: Party for Socialism and Liberation

GENERAL ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS FOR ALL STATE, DISTRICT AND COUNTY CANDIDATES: A candidate must be a registered voter in New Mexico affiliated with the political party for which he/she is seeking office. A candidate for district office must reside in the district of voter registration. Additional requirements for each office are given on the following pages.

UNITED STATES SENATOR

Six-year term. Represents New Mexico in the United States Senate, which has 100 members. Candidates must be at least 30 years old, a citizen of the United States for at least nine years, and a resident of New Mexico. One New Mexico seat is up for election this year. Senators are elected statewide. Salary: \$174,000.

	<i>Should Congress act to mitigate the effects of climate change? If so, how? If not, why not? (65 words)</i>	<i>What actions, if any, should Congress take regarding the accessibility, affordability, and quality of health care? (65 words)</i>	<i>What should the role of the federal government be in planning for public health emergencies? Please explain. (65 words)</i>	<i>What actions, if any, should Congress take regarding our immigration system? (65 words)</i>
Ben R. LUJÁN Democrat 	<p>We cannot wait another generation to act on the climate crisis. In Congress, I introduced the Clean Energy Standard Act to transition electrical utilities to 100% clean energy in the 2050s and authored the IMPACT For Energy Act to expand investments in organizations working to protect our public lands and strengthen regulations to protect our air and water. By making smart investments in clean energy now, we can create good-paying jobs and secure the needed changes to protect our environment.</p>	<p>Health care is a human right and that's why I have fought to expand health care throughout my career. I am the author of the State Public Option Act, which allows people to buy into their state's Medicaid programs. In Congress, I voted for legislation to drive down prescription drug prices and end surprise medical billing, all while fighting for resources to improve the quality and accessibility of health care for rural New Mexicans.</p>	<p>This pandemic has demonstrated that the federal government must have the ability to effectively respond to public health emergencies. A crisis like COVID-19 requires a comprehensive federal response but instead we've seen a lack of leadership from the president, which has resulted in massive losses of life. The federal government should develop and prepare to implement plans to control the spread of outbreaks in coordination with all 50 states and replenish stockpiles of medical equipment.</p>	<p>Our immigration system is fundamentally broken. Congress needs to pass comprehensive immigration reform - one that includes a pathway to citizenship - protect the DREAMers, and bring humanity back to our immigration policies. We must take immediate action to ensure that the rights of migrants and refugees are protected by ending the family separation and the Remain in Mexico policies implemented by the Trump administration.</p>
Bob WALSH Libertarian 	<p>Congress should defund government departments that fail to report emissions produced and measures taken to reduce emissions. Individuals may take whatever voluntary measures they deem appropriate. Congress should not impose burdens on the private sector to mitigate uncertain effects that are decades away. Instead, Congress should let our economy grow while the technology advances.</p>	<p>Libertarians favor a free market. We should be free to determine our level of health insurance, our level of health care, our providers, our medicines and treatments, and our end-of-life choices. We should be free to purchase insurance and care across state lines. A free market would offer many choices, including competing affordable options with only catastrophic insurance and without the latest interventions. Independent individuals and groups would rate quality.</p>	<p>The current pandemic has reminded us that central planning does not work. Private companies are happy to compete for the fastest response to a new epidemic, encouraged by the potential financial rewards. The government should get out of the way, not impede developments the way the CDC and the FDA have done during the current pandemic.</p>	<p>Although we should encourage immigration as a benefit to our economy, the more important considerations are human rights. Political freedom and escape from tyranny demand that individuals not be unreasonably constrained by government in the crossing of political boundaries. Economic freedom demands the unrestricted movement of human as well as financial capital across national borders.</p>
Mark V. RONCHETTI Republican 	<p>While climate change should be addressed, I disagree with those who believe that dismantling our economy is the answer. I strongly oppose the Green New Deal that my opponent is co-sponsoring. The "Green New Deal" would destroy our economy, while the world's largest polluters - India & China - sit idly by. The approach of proponents of the Green New Deal simply won't work. I support an innovative approach relying on natural gas, carbon capture & emerging technologies to address climate change.</p>	<p>Increasing and improving access to healthcare is possible by enacting policies that lower costs while protecting quality and choice. I oppose government-run Medicare for All. I will always protect coverage for those who have pre-existing conditions. In a state like New Mexico, wider availability of telemedicine is critical to accomplishing this goal. Every American should be able to pick the healthcare plan and doctor they want, not one the government picks for them.</p>	<p>The federal government should have a national response ready for a variety of public health emergencies. As we've seen with COVID-19, it is essential for the government to have the ability to identify, monitor, and eventually control health threats. Additionally, the federal government should maintain necessary public health resources in a national stockpile to be prepared to scale up response to any health threat, rapidly.</p>	<p>I oppose amnesty & support efforts to secure the border with physical barriers, technology & an increase in border patrol agents. Illegal drugs pouring over our border is hurting everyone & this drug trade fuels much of our crime epidemic. I oppose sanctuary city laws that allow illegal immigrants who commit crimes to remain in the country. Legal immigration made this country great and we need clear immigration laws where those seeking the American dream can do so lawfully.</p>

CANDIDATE'S RESPONSES AND WORD LIMITS: The responses of candidates to our questionnaire are printed exactly as received by the League. The League assumes no responsibility for the content of any candidate's reply. Further, the League publishes this information neither to endorse nor reject the views of any candidate. The League has in no way edited for meaning, grammar, punctuation, or spelling. Because of space restrictions, the League has pre-advised the candidates of the word limits on the responses.

UNITED STATES REPRESENTATIVE

Two-year term. Represents New Mexico in the United States House of Representatives, which has 435 members elected from districts based on population. New Mexico is entitled to three members. Candidates must be at least 25 years old, a United States citizen for at least seven years, and a resident of New Mexico. Salary: \$174,000.

Should Congress act to mitigate the effects of climate change? If so, how? If not, why not? (65 words)	What actions, if any, should Congress take regarding the accessibility, affordability, and quality of health care? (65 words)	What should the role of the federal government be in planning for public health emergencies? Please explain. (65 words)	What actions, if any, should Congress take regarding our immigration system? (65 words)
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DISTRICT 1

Deb
HAALAND
Democrat



I firmly believe that it is a responsibility of Congress to act aggressively in fighting climate change. It is our duty to the American people, and the planet, to introduce legislation that protects the environment. I introduced the Climate Stewardship Act, co-led the 100% Clean Economy Act, was an original cosponsor of the Green New Deal and have now been appointed to the Biden campaign's Climate Working Group. I also serve on the Steering Committee of the Global Campaign for Nature.

Health care is a human right. I co-sponsored the 2019 Medicare for All Act, which ensures that every person in our country can access affordable, quality health care and comprehensive benefits. I co-led the bi-partisan ECHO Act, establishing a federal grant program to support tech-based healthcare systems. Congress should continue to support measures that improve health care for Americans. It is our duty to represent the American people and meet the needs of quality healthcare for all.

The federal government needs to provide a plan for public health emergencies that allocates rebates, stimulus checks, hazard pay & provides free nationwide testing. During the COVID-19 pandemic, I continue to fight for our families. That's why I advocated for the Essential Worker's Bill of Rights to ensure workers are guaranteed safe working environments, proper employer provided PPE, & compensation for their essential work. I also helped secure \$8 billion for Tribes in the Corona Relief Fund.

I believe in building bridges, not walls. It is our responsibility in Congress to fight for comprehensive immigration reform and build inclusive pathways to citizenship for undocumented immigrants. I want to stop deportations, protect dreamers, reform ICE and hold our government accountable for its treatment of immigrants. We are a country of immigrants and I believe we must welcome those in need of safety, opportunity and hope. I support DACA and DAPA, as well as humane asylum policy.

Michelle Garcia
HOLMES
Republican



The U.S. is addressing climate change, in the last 20 years we have reduced GH-GAS emissions by almost 1 billion tons, surpassing every country across the globe. I believe in utilizing scientific methods, science can create new technologies in clean energy & new streams of energy that will solve our needs. This is just not a U.S. problem, this is a global problem too; we must monitor and work with nations throughout the world & encourage them to be more aggressive with their reduction as well.

Premiums, co-pays, & deductibles, are too high. Consumer choice in the healthcare industry, free-market health care and patient centered alternatives that allow for greater customer portability are needed. Clear and concise costs and preventative care information should always be provided by the healthcare provider, giving individuals the opportunity to compare. We suffer from a lack of health care providers in New Mexico and should be able to cross state lines to visit additional providers.

I will introduce a Pandemic Preparedness Plan for the safety and well being of our country and state. Having worked on policy, management by crisis does not save lives, being prepared can save lives. My Plan: Ensure protection our constitutional rights; Evaluate all 50 states to garner information on best practices; Bolster communication and notification strategies nationally and globally; Ensure funding for the Strategic National Stockpile Infrastructure; Ensure funding for vaccine R & D.

Government is responsible for securing the nation's borders & determining who can lawfully enter. It is estimated that more than 16 million illegal immigrants are currently situated in the U.S. Being a border state, we must recognize the impact of this on our resources. Congress needs to stop harmful immigration policies and start pursuing fair and effective solutions to our immigration system. We must resolve DACA and provide legislation that will update and modernized our immigration policies

DISTRICT 2

Xochitl Torres
SMALL
Democrat



Climate change has real consequences, many of which we're already experiencing in New Mexico. That's why I voted to re-enter the Paris Climate Agreement and introduced legislation that would improve and update our water infrastructure, and support measures that would increase methane capture. To fight climate change, we need diverse partners to build solutions for responsible energy production, energy conservation, and carbon capture.

Now more than ever, we must make our healthcare both affordable and accessible to New Mexicans no matter where they live. That's why I supported the CARES Act to ensure free testing for individuals and provide support to strengthen our healthcare infrastructure. Before the spread of COVID-19, I introduced the Rural MOMs Act to increase access to maternal healthcare for expectant mothers and fought to give Medicare the power to negotiate for lower drug prices.

I was proud to work with Republicans, Democrats, and President Trump to pass the CARES Act. It provided support to rural healthcare and relief to small businesses. Unfortunately--and despite my efforts--it didn't directly support local governments or the essential services they provide. I'll keep pushing for relief, support for local services, and investments to rebuild New Mexico.

Our immigration and border security systems are broken and we need strong, smart and fair solutions to fix them. That's why I voted for HR 6 to provide a pathway to citizenship for DREAMers and helped introduce the Farm Workforce Modernization Act to improve our H2A visa system. A secure border supports vibrant communities through legal trade and immigration, which is why I introduced legislation to stop drug and human trafficking at our ports of entry and voted for more asylum judges.

Yvette
HERRELL
Republican



The proposals in front of Congress today, including the dangerous and out-of-touch "Green New Deal" are not acceptable solutions. New Mexico's farmers, ranchers, and extraction industries have been good stewards of the land, because the land is their livelihood. We must continue to harness and invest in the technology and innovation that has resulted in reduced emissions - not punishing or regulating our job creators to death.

We need to reduce the cost of healthcare by embracing free market solutions that allow providers to compete for our business. When they compete, the cost comes down, quality increases, and patients win. Transparency is another key to ensuring we reduce the actual cost of treatments and procedures. Patients and their families should see what they are being charged for and be able to negotiate cheaper prices - to hold providers accountable.

In the preamble of the Constitution, it is outlined that our government needs to "provide for the common defense, promote the general Welfare". I believe that preparing our nation for public health emergencies and natural disasters is a core purpose of our federal government. We should always be seeking innovative practices to keep Americans safe and providing the states ample resources to effectively carry out emergency orders.

Congress needs to stop kicking the can down the road and treating our immigration system as a political pawn, because there are real people being affected by the actions of the government. We need to reform the system from the top down, securing the border, providing a long term solution to DACA, and improving the guest worker visa program so American employers and producers can access the labor they need while providing jobs for immigrants that are ready, willing and able to work legally.

“Democracy cannot be forced upon a society, neither is it a gift that can be held forever. It has to be struggled hard for and defended everyday anew.”

– Heinz Galinski

UNITED STATES REPRESENTATIVES (continued)

Should Congress act to mitigate the effects of climate change? If so, how? If not, why not? (65 words)

What actions, if any, should Congress take regarding the accessibility, affordability, and quality of health care? (65 words)

What should the role of the federal government be in planning for public health emergencies? Please explain. (65 words)

What actions, if any, should Congress take regarding our immigration system? (65 words)

DISTRICT 2 (continued)

Steve JONES
DTS (write-in)



Absolutely! Mitigation can be prevention of additional pollution and remediation of existing pollution. The first step is to stop politicizing the issue. Second step is to increase retail costs for all hydrocarbon products by a federal tax overlay. Third step is to apply technology to reclaim and remediate. I am not in favor of drastic prevention measures that will create poverty. Fourth step is to sanction countries creating greatest pollution damage.

Congress should stop selling out to the American Medical Association and create competition to lower costs. Americans should be entitled to seek health care in Canada and Mexico. Ultimately, the deteriorating health of Americans will cause a failure to any single pay system. The question should not be who is paying for health care but how to stop the runaway increases in costs of health care. Don't ruin Medicare with inclusion of everyone.

Dem's and Rep.'s need to take politics out of emergency response. I am sure that the Pandemic has the government's attention but what, where and when will be the next emergency. It was my understanding that a lot of time and money was being expended on emergency response, if not why not. The Voter and journalists must insist upon guidelines for public health emergencies being non-partisan.

It is the sole responsibility of our Federal Government and not a state, county or city. The immigration system of the US has enslaved those who enter our country for the benefit of employers wanting their CHEAP labor. The new plantation mentality. Step 1 pass a National Minimum Wage of \$15 per hour for workers. Step 2 create a Union of Immigrant Labor "UIL" in which all immigrant workers must enroll. Step 3 enforce economic sanctions against employer and immigrant that violate law.

DISTRICT 3

Teresa Leger FERNANDEZ
Democrat



In New Mexico, we know how important the land, clean skies and water are to who we are as a people. Yes, Congress must immediately act on climate change. We must rejoin the Paris Agreement, invest in renewable energy resources like wind and solar, utilize regenerative agriculture and pass clean energy tax incentives. Our transition away from fossil fuels must include economic assistance to places like New Mexico that have borne the brunt of our fossil fuel consumption.

It's up to Congress to transition America to universal healthcare, which would ensure quality, affordable access to healthcare for all without bankrupting co-pays and deductibles. Congress must also address discrimination based on preexisting conditions, and bring down the cost of prescription drugs through negotiation, patent reform and increased US manufacturing. Additionally, we must fund our rural clinics and pay our rural doctors, nurses and health workers more.

The federal government should lead when there is a public health emergency; providing reliable public health information, mobilizing medical supplies (Defense Production Act) and promoting medical research so each state is acting in unison to eliminate the health threat. We've seen the loss of life and livelihood when we don't have a unifying national leader who instead undermines the CDC and WHO. The US has the most cases and deaths of any advanced country because of Trump's failure to lead.

We must honestly and compassionately apply our asylum laws to those seeking refuge from persecution. The abuse of families and children at our border does not reflect the values and humanity we believe in. Congress should pass comprehensive immigration reform that would provide a path to citizenship for undocumented immigrants, DREAMers included. Immigrants are an essential part of our economy. I helped start an immigration clinic and know the importance of this community to our country.

Alexis M. JOHNSON
Republican



As an environmental engineer, I have made sure we respect our environment while creating jobs for New Mexicans and working together. We do not want to have rolling blackouts here in NM as we see in CA due to their all sustainable push. I support sustainable efforts in NM; however, the sun does not always shine, and the wind does not always blow. It would be foolhardy to put NMs out of jobs, increase their electric bills, and take away 39% of our state revenue for our education. NM together!

I 100% support coverage for pre-existing conditions. I support choice of doctors and transparency of the cost of services. I will further current efforts to reduce our prescription healthcare costs by bringing in increased competition. I will continue the efforts to hold those accountable for price gouging for life saving medications. In addition, I fully support the expansion of broadband access to facilitate the growth of Telehealth services in our tribal communities and greater NM.

The federal government should act when there is a public health emergency such as the controversial closing of the borders and preventing those from hard-hit countries to enter the US until proper testing and safety measures could be ensured. In addition, I will work with Congress to make sure we have the proper PPE and ventilators manufactured in the US. We must make sure that the US is not beholden to other countries for critical safety gear. NM can be the premier location to manufacture.

I was raised by an immigrant from Mexico who taught me the value of the American dream to work hard and have American opportunity. My candidacy reflects those New Mexican values. We must understand many people that traverse the border are under duress from drug smugglers and sex trafficking. I support an increase in technological monitoring of the border as a must to secure the border. We must have a welcoming door to immigrants to this country via the legal process and comprehensive reform.

“People often say that, in a democracy, decisions are made by a majority of the people. Of course, that is not true. Decisions are made by a majority of those who make themselves heard and who vote – a very different thing.”

Walter H. Judd

“The highest measure of democracy is neither the ‘extent of freedom’ nor the ‘extent of equality’, but rather the highest measure of participation.”

– A. de Benoist

NEW MEXICO STATE JUDICIAL OFFICES

Judicial vacancies are filled through appointment by the Governor from a list of nominees submitted by a judicial nominating committee. At the next regular election, the judicial position is filled in a partisan election in which the appointed judge must participate and win the most votes to retain the seat. Judges serve for terms of a set number of years, after which they must win a 57% “yes” vote in non-partisan retention elections to keep their seats.

JUSTICE OF THE SUPREME COURT

Eight-year term. Serves as one of five justices on the highest court in New Mexico. It is the court of last resort and has supervisory control over all lesser courts and attorneys licensed in the state. Required to hear appeals from the Public Regulation Commission, election challenges and criminal cases when a defendant is sentenced to the death penalty or life imprisonment. Has discretionary authority to review rulings of the Court of Appeals and questions of law certified to it by the Court of Appeals or federal court. Must be 35 years old, have practiced law for 10 years, and have resided in New Mexico for the last three years. Salary: Chief Justice, \$150,207; Associate Justice, \$148,207.

How have your training, professional experience and interests prepared you to serve on the court? (65 words)

Do you believe that all persons in New Mexico have fair and equal access to legal assistance and the legal system? If not, what reforms do you support? Please explain. (65 words)

What changes, if any, would you recommend to the NM Supreme Court practices and why? (65 words)

Do you favor nonpartisan elections for the judiciary? Why or why not? (65 words)

Position 1

Shannon BACON Democrat



I have been serving New Mexico as a judge for over a decade. Prior to my appointment to the New Mexico Supreme Court, I was a district court judge. This experience, trying cases, managing a very large docket and working on the administration of justice gives me a solid foundation for the work of the Supreme Court. I have also dedicated much of my judicial career to equal access to justice. Providing legal services to New Mexican's who cannot afford a lawyer is critical to the legal system.

Yes. I believe that all New Mexican's should have fair and equal access to legal assistance and the legal system. I am an active member of the Access to Justice Commission and was the Co-Chair of the Second Judicial District's Pro Bono Committee. In these roles I have worked on programs providing free legal services to anyone in need and creating systems that make it easier for people to navigate the court system. I continue this work on the Supreme Court.

I support changes that allow cases to be timely decided. Often, by the time a case reaches the Supreme Court, years have passed. Ensuring that once the case reaches the Court it moves toward resolution requires a focus on deciding cases and writing opinions. Recently, I proposed procedural changes to our rules that will allow the Court to address cases more quickly. I also support changes that foster open government, such as the Court's recent decision to telecast our oral argument.

I do. The judiciary is an independent branch of government that by design is not subject to political winds. Judges are not partisan. Because of the unique role of the judiciary and judges, it would better reflect the courts if judicial elections were nonpartisan.

Ned S. FULLER Republican



I am a deputy district attorney in San Juan County, NM. I have served as an administrative law judge, district court judge, as the NM Worker's Compensation Director, Acting Cabinet Secretary for the NM General Services Department and overseen the litigation involving the State. I have served in private practice handling a wide variety of civil matters. What most qualifies me to serve however is my philosophy and commitment that a judge must uphold the Constitution and follow the law.

Not yet. There are a number of organizations that provide access to legal help. See for example: <https://www.nmbar.org/NmbarDocs/forPublic/LegalServiceProviders.pdf> I support efforts to streamline the adjudication process through arbitration, mediation, and summary trials. As NM Workers' Compensation Director I worked to make the system accessible to our rural communities through video conferencing, weekly lump sum settlement hearings and online mediation scheduling.

Regarding criminal law we can do better in balancing the rights of the accused and the safety of our community. I support pre-trial detention rules that combine dangerousness hearings and preliminary hearings and allow the same rules of evidence for both. I would make the time constraints consistent with the complexity of the case. Our system is too expensive and there are too many delays. I support alternative dispute resolutions such as arbitration, mediation and summary jury trials.

Yes, but I would rather have a system allowing the executive to appoint with retention votes to follow. This approach better meets the goal of an independent judiciary that is also accountable to the public it serves. Whether partisan or non-partisan, elections politicize our judiciary by requiring judges to campaign. We should study whether our justices should be selected one each from five different geographical regions of the State. Currently all five justices come from Santa Fe or ABQ.

Position 2

David K. THOMSON Democrat



My legal career and community involvement have uniquely prepared me for this position. I was vetted by a bi-partisan judicial nominating commission and extensively interviewed by the Governor, who appointed me to the position. As a sitting Justice, and former trial court judge in the 1st judicial district, my experience proved invaluable in ensuring the NM court system remained open during COVID19. I litigated for the NM Attorney General's Office and am familiar with how to run a court system.

In many rural parts of this state there is a legal desert and legal access gap. To close the gap, I support limited licensing of non-lawyers for simple legal matters. I support increases in technological infrastructure to allow filing by email and remote appearances. I believe if a lawyer provides free legal aid, they should receive a reduction in dues or CLE credit. Finally, we need to create a loan forgiveness program for new lawyers that will serve rural areas.

Many changes are required because of the pandemic that will serve our system well afterward. For example, courts broadened access to electronic filing for non represented parties. I led an effort to expand digital access. We must continue to make this process easier, especially for rural communities. During these times of social unrest, we must confront and address our role in resolving racial inequality. That is why I started a minority clerkship program to improve diversity in the judiciary.

Our system of choosing judges is not perfect. However, voters have the information needed to elect experienced and qualified judges. My experience is well documented. I am the only one in my race who went through a vigorous vetting process with a bipartisan nominating commission and interview process. Voters can read the opinions or articles on the law I have written. As a trial court judge, I was evaluated by the Judicial Performance Evaluation Commission. Documented verified experience counts.

Kerry J. MORRIS Republican



Having been licensed to practice law for nearly 40 years, I've had the opportunity to represent thousands of individuals, small businesses, insurance companies, state agencies, and many others. My years of experience have provided me with a broad understanding of a wide variety of areas of legal practice. My years of experience representing people enable me to understand the needs, expectations, and concerns of parties who appear before the court.

Yes, I do believe that all persons in New Mexico have fair and equal access to legal assistance and legal system in New Mexico. There are a wide variety of free legal services offered to those of limited means who otherwise would be unable to afford legal representation or have access to the courts. Among the many services available to the poor, in include the public defender's office for qualified criminal defendants and many programs for non-criminal or civil cases.

None at the present time.

I do not favor nonpartisan elections for the judiciary because I believe that party affiliation is one important factor among many that may be helpful to the public in evaluating judicial candidates.

JUDGE OF THE COURT OF APPEALS

Eight-year term. Serves as one of ten judges on the intermediate court between the district courts and the Supreme Court. Judges sit in panels of three. Court reviews appeals in all cases, except in criminal cases involving sentences of death or life imprisonment, appeals from the Public Regulation Commission, and cases involving habeas corpus. Must be 35 years old, have practiced law for 10 years, and resided in New Mexico for the last three years. Salary: Chief Judge, \$142,697; Judge, \$140,797.

How have your training, professional experience and interests prepared you to serve on this court? (65 words)

Do you believe that all persons in New Mexico have fair and equal access to legal assistance and the legal system? If not, what reforms do you support? Please explain. (65 words)

What changes, if any, would you recommend to the NM Court of Appeals practices and why? (65 words)

Do you favor nonpartisan elections for the judiciary? Why or why not? (65 words)

Position 1

Zach Ives
Democrat



My experience as a judge and a lawyer have prepared me well. Over the past year and a half serving on the Court of Appeals, I have gained a great deal of experience doing the difficult work of an appellate judge. Before Governor Lujan Grisham appointed me, I had 17 years of experience as a litigator, handling appeals in federal and state courts and a wide variety of cases in trial courts. I also served as a law clerk to Chief Justice Pamela Minzner of the New Mexico Supreme Court.

Unfortunately, no. For civil matters, I support the Justice For All Initiative. Its basic goals are to ensure that every person with legal needs can (1) access important components of our system with or without the help of a lawyer and (2) receive appropriate services, such as alternative dispute resolution and representation by a lawyer. For criminal matters, I believe we must adequately fund legal representation for people (defendants and victims) who cannot afford to pay private lawyers.

Our court is exploring how to use our limited resources more efficiently because additional funding will be scarce due to the pandemic. For example, I have worked on a pilot project involving potential changes to our calendaring system, which is what we use to determine how difficult each case is and what resources we will need to analyze the case and make a decision. Modifying this system could increase the quality of our decisions and decrease the amount of time it takes to resolve appeals.

Yes, I believe nonpartisan elections would benefit New Mexicans by increasing the independence of our judiciary. Ultimately, whether to make this change is a question for our Legislature. In the meantime, voters have a neutral source of information about qualifications: bi-partisan judicial nominating commissions. I participated in this rigorous vetting process, which involves a written application and interview by all commissioners. The commission recommended me as a qualified candidate.

Barbara V. Johnson
Republican



I was sworn in as an attorney in October, 1988. I started working immediately in the area of Family Law, which is a very broad area involving the parties' relationships, children, finances, assets, liabilities and at times criminal and other civil matters. Although most of my cases are settled, those that are not are concluded with a trial. If the trial judge decides an issue incorrectly, the next step is to ask the Court of Appeals to change the trial judge's decision, which I have done.

No. Access to and justice from our legal system is best obtained with the assistance of an educated, trained, experienced professional - a lawyer. Those that cannot afford a lawyer often represent themselves. We should have more publications available about the various areas of law and more programs making it easier for lawyers to obtain their required credits for representing litigants that cannot afford a lawyer or will represent litigants for a reduced fee.

I understand some of the reasons appellate decisions take years to be issued is the difficulty in keeping the attorney clerks that assist the Judges, the Judiciary is not sufficiently funded to hire, train and keep those attorneys, there are insufficient funds for proper training of new Judges and continuing legal education for more experienced Judges. Those budget matters should be examined within the Court of Appeals and addressed to our legislators, so our Judiciary is an equal branch.

No. Judges elected by the citizens keep the judges accountable to the citizens. Committees should not be reviewing applications and making recommendations to the Governor to fill vacancies. Each step of our current process allows for input by citizens. However, our citizens are mostly unaware of any process but an election. The Judiciary is an equal branch of our government. As such, it should be created by the voters it serves - just like to legislative and executive branches.

Position 2

Shammara H. Henderson
Democrat



I was vetted and recommended by a bi-partisan commission and appointed by the Governor. My experience includes all sides of criminal and civil matters as a former federal and state prosecutor and defense lawyer. My work on civil rights, employment law, and personal injury has afforded me a diverse career. As an Assistant US Attorney under the Obama administration and clerk for Supreme Court Justice Charles Daniels, I understand how the important work of the courts impact all New Mexicans.

While NM is fortunate that the courts' staff, judges, and attorneys are more diverse than in other states, we do not have a perfect system. While we have many wonderful programs, many New Mexicans are still falling through the gaps and receiving inconsistent sentencing or punishment when not represented by trained attorneys. Equitable resources across all judicial districts and the formation of specialty courts across the state are critical.

Making the court more user-friendly for pro se parties is always a challenge. We have been working on technology changes so that those without attorney-representation have easier access to competently move their cases forward. The Court is also working on ensuring more oral arguments during the pandemic through virtual means. And, each judge has been committed to ending backlog and getting the court a stable caseload as compared to historical norms.

Integrity and confidence in the election of our judiciary is critical. While judges currently run in partisan elections, we must adhere to a very strict Code of Conduct which prohibits us from being "political" and taking stances on issues. Voters should take great confidence in electing those who went through the bi-partisan nominating process, which I did. It is a rigorous process to ensure only the most qualified judges are appointed and have been deemed qualified.

Gertrude Lee
Republican



For over ten years I have worked as a trial attorney and prosecutor in both State and Tribal court. I worked my way up from an entry-level attorney to a Deputy District Attorney in Gallup where I represented the State in numerous jury trials and filed several appeals. I continue my work as a prosecutor in Farmington. I am also the former Chief Prosecutor of the Navajo Nation where I brought cases before the Tribal Courts, and managed 10 prosecutor offices and several dozen staff.

We are living in unprecedented times. As we rely more on technology the issues with access become more apparent and difficult for those in rural communities with unstable housing, limited telephone service, and/or no access to the internet. To this end, I support reforms and projects to improve broadband infrastructure in rural communities to make electronic access more available, thus ensuring that everyone has fair and equal access to the legal system.

We have all heard the phrase "justice delayed is justice denied." This is true for parties who wait years for a decision from the Court of Appeals. However, the Court faces a number of challenges, including an increasing docket and limited resources. I would recommend using available data to help identify where the appellate process can be streamlined. Streamlining the process should aim to decrease the time period it takes to calendar a case and decrease the time it takes to decide a case.

I favor a process of selection based upon merit to be followed by a retention election. The process of selection by merit separates the Judge from partisan politics while ensuring he or she is qualified for the position. I am in favor of retention elections so the people always have a say whether to keep a judge or not.


"Someone struggled for your right to vote. Use it."

– Susan B. Anthony



JUDGE OF THE COURT OF APPEALS (continued)

How have your training, professional experience and interests prepared you to serve on this court? (65 words)	Do you believe that all persons in New Mexico have fair and equal access to legal assistance and the legal system? If not, what reforms do you support? Please explain. (65 words)	What changes, if any, would you recommend to the NM Court of Appeals practices and why? (65 words)	Do you favor nonpartisan elections for the judiciary? Why or why not? (65 words)
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Position 2 (continued)

<div><div><div>Stephen P. CURTIS</div><div>Libertarian</div></div><div></div></div> <div>I have practiced law in NM since 1978. During this time I have represented clients in hundreds of cases, including approximately 20 appeals in many different areas of law.</div>	I believe all persons in NM have access to legal assistance, although people and entities who have more wealth do have better access. I suggest that the entire legal process should be streamlined and made to be more efficient and, therefore, less costly.	I believe we need more Judges on the Court of Appeals so that cases are decided more expeditiously.	I do favor non-partisan elections for the judiciary. Party affiliation hinders the process and unnecessarily politicizes the elections. I suggest an open process where anyone who obtains the requisite signatures should be on the ballot.
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Position 3

<div><div><div>Jane B. YOHALEM</div><div>Democrat</div></div><div></div></div> <div>I have been an appeals lawyer in New Mexico representing people from every corner of the State before our Court of Appeals and Supreme Court. My career began as a civil rights lawyer representing children with disabilities and have represented indigent families in termination of parental rights cases for many years. I have been counsel in over 400 appeals, resulting in more than 100 published decisions advancing the law of New Mexico. I have been found qualified by the Judicial Selection Comm.</div>	We are not providing all persons in New Mexico fair and equal access to our legal system. Years ago, based on my briefs and arguments, our Supreme Court interpreted New Mexico's Children's Code to require the State to provide services to every New Mexico family whose children are taken into State custody, regardless of background. We need to better fund our hard-pressed legal services and public defender offices so they can meet the need for quality legal representation.	I was recently appointed by the Governor to serve on the Court of Appeals. The number one concern has been the speed of decisions in the last few years. I am pleased to report that the Court has eliminated the backlog. I would like to look at the Court's priority system to be sure it is working as intended to effectively prioritize time-sensitive appeals, including those of incarcerated individuals and appeals which affect children.	I believe that New Mexico has a good mix of an initial partisan election followed by a non-contested retention election. A judge must approach each case on its specific facts and apply the law fairly to those facts. At the same time, voters have a right to know whether a judge shares their values and their understanding of the role our courts play in our democracy. It is appropriate to have the initial vetting of judicial candidates be by the voters in a partisan election.
<div><div><div>Thomas C. MONTROYA</div><div>Republican</div></div><div></div></div> <div>I have been qualified to be appointed district judge 3 times by the Judicial Nominating Commission. I have devoted my 39 year career to the field of family law, which covers a very wide variety of all the civil laws which arise in those cases. I have chaired Supreme Court Committees which promulgated statewide rules for family law and domestic violence cases. I have written, lobbied and obtained sponsors for over 30 statutory enactments in family law to address solutions to family law problems.</div>	In theory, all persons are equal before the Courts and the law. In practice, many people cannot afford a lawyer, which creates a great disadvantage, even if the opponent also does not have a lawyer. For this reason, the New Mexico Supreme Court should consider mandatory, rather than voluntary, minimum legal services by lawyers to be provided to those who cannot afford a lawyer.	The Court of Appeals is a hard working Court, but with a very high caseload and limited resources. To address this problem will require additional personnel and additional funding.	I do not favor nonpartisan elections for the judiciary, because the party affiliation of a candidate is a public record in any event, and because the public has a right to know such party affiliation, as one factor in deciding for whom to vote. Nonetheless, in decision making, under the law, a judge may not permit political affiliation to influence the judge's judgment.

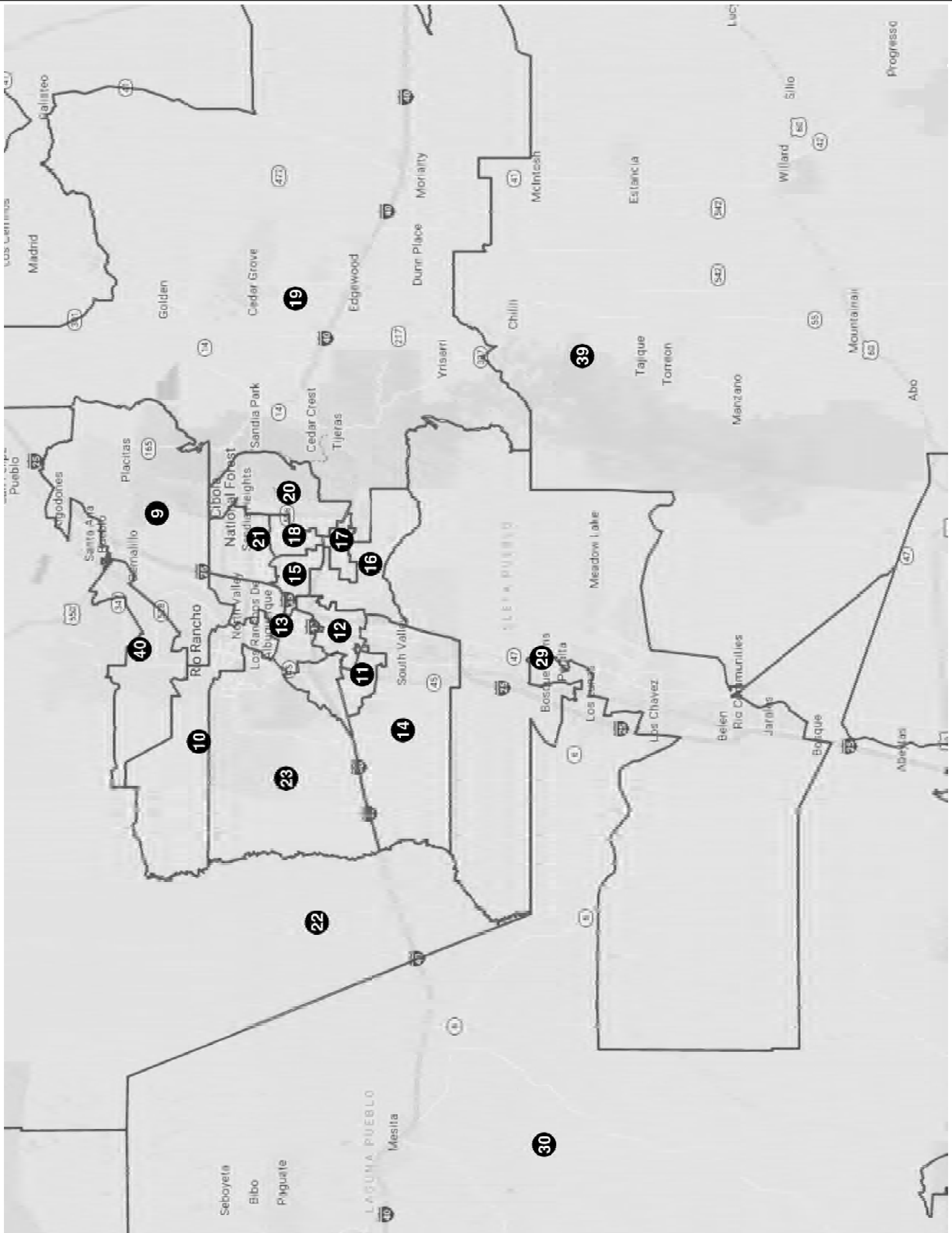
“Politics ought to be the part-time profession of every citizen who would protect the rights and privileges of free people and who would preserve what is good and fruitful in our national heritage.”

– Dwight D. Eisenhower

“Many forms of Government have been tried, and will be tried in this world of sin and woe. No one pretends that democracy is perfect or all-wise. Indeed, it has been said that democracy is the worst form of Government except all those other forms that have been tried from time to time.”

– Winston Churchill

STATE SENATE DISTRICT MAP





NEW MEXICO STATE DISTRICT OFFICES

STATE SENATOR



Four-year term. Represents district in the NM State Senate, which has 42 members. In odd-numbered years, the legislature meets for 60 days; in even-numbered years it meets for 30 days. The Governor may call special sessions. In addition to other duties prescribed by law, senators enact “reasonable and appropriate laws,” represent the constituents in their districts, and serve on standing or interim committees. Candidates must be at least twenty-five years old and must be a resident of the district from which elected. No salary, but reimbursement of \$167 per day (winter) and \$192 per day (summer) plus mileage at the federal reimbursement rate while in session or at interim meetings.

<i>What are your priorities to move New Mexico to a more stable economy? (65 words)</i>	<i>Do you favor tapping the permanent funds, in a greater degree than is currently allowed, to fund immediate economic needs? Please explain your answer. (65 words)</i>	<i>New Mexico has been one of the most successful states in limiting the spread of Covid-19 and in ramping up hospital care and testing. What specifically, would you do to support and improve current policies? (65 words)</i>	<i>Nationally recognized surveys consistently rank New Mexico last as a good place to be a kid. How would you address this problem? (65 words)</i>
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State Senate District 9 – Sandoval, Bernalillo

<div><div><div>Brenda Grace MCKENNA</div><div>Democrat</div></div><div></div></div> <td><p>We need better paying jobs, here in Senate District 9. Our district has so much to offer--small businesses, renewable energy, local foods and agriculture, and more. We need to work with businesses to train and retain workers and make sure they have healthcare, sick leave, and childcare, especially because of the impact of the pandemic.</p></td> <td><p>I support an additional one percent from the Land Grant Permanent Fund to support early childhood education programs. These programs--such as home visitation, childcare, and PreK-- will improve outcomes for children later in life.</p></td> <td><p>I believe we must continue to follow the leadership of Governor Michelle Lujan Grisham, who is making science-based decisions. We can control our fate here with simple rules: wear your mask, practice social distancing, and avoid large gatherings. We owe it to frontline workers, immune-compromised individuals, and senior citizens to stay safe.</p></td> <td><p>We must fully fund education and make sure healthcare is a right for children and their families: Every family who wants it should have access to high-quality home visitation and PreK, K-12 education, and higher education. Education is the best way to move the needle on childhood and economic well-being, for the long-term.</p></td>	<p>We need better paying jobs, here in Senate District 9. Our district has so much to offer--small businesses, renewable energy, local foods and agriculture, and more. We need to work with businesses to train and retain workers and make sure they have healthcare, sick leave, and childcare, especially because of the impact of the pandemic.</p>	<p>I support an additional one percent from the Land Grant Permanent Fund to support early childhood education programs. These programs--such as home visitation, childcare, and PreK-- will improve outcomes for children later in life.</p>	<p>I believe we must continue to follow the leadership of Governor Michelle Lujan Grisham, who is making science-based decisions. We can control our fate here with simple rules: wear your mask, practice social distancing, and avoid large gatherings. We owe it to frontline workers, immune-compromised individuals, and senior citizens to stay safe.</p>	<p>We must fully fund education and make sure healthcare is a right for children and their families: Every family who wants it should have access to high-quality home visitation and PreK, K-12 education, and higher education. Education is the best way to move the needle on childhood and economic well-being, for the long-term.</p>
<div><div><div>John Stahlman CLARK</div><div>Republican</div></div><div></div></div> <td><p>To support the oil and gas industry, and at the same time, invest in renewable energy. We can kindle the economy by promoting the State of New Mexico as the #1 retirement state in the country, remove the tax on social security, and reform the Gross Receipts Tax. Also, increasing funding to economic development agencies would stimulate businesses throughout the state. We must address government overspending and develop a realistic overall budget that works for all New Mexicans.</p></td> <td><p>I am not in favor of tapping the permanent funds to any degree. The state must learn to operate on a planned budget.</p></td> <td><p>I would like to see greater pro-active measures and participation by the state legislature to develop and implement laws that would better protect the people and the economy of New Mexico during unprecedented times such as this. There must be prevention plans in place that will ensure that our state is healthy, both physically and fiscally. The key is the balance of both, and it is imperative that we protect our citizens from the virus while keeping our state economy open for business.</p></td> <td><p>Our state has been investing money in our education system for many years, and yet we continue to hold a failing national report card. School choice is a favorable option, and has been proven to raise grades, ensure student safety, promote parental satisfaction and involvement, design instruction tailored to the student at their own individual level, and will provide options for low income families to attend any school of their choice regardless of their economic status or location.</p></td>	<p>To support the oil and gas industry, and at the same time, invest in renewable energy. We can kindle the economy by promoting the State of New Mexico as the #1 retirement state in the country, remove the tax on social security, and reform the Gross Receipts Tax. Also, increasing funding to economic development agencies would stimulate businesses throughout the state. We must address government overspending and develop a realistic overall budget that works for all New Mexicans.</p>	<p>I am not in favor of tapping the permanent funds to any degree. The state must learn to operate on a planned budget.</p>	<p>I would like to see greater pro-active measures and participation by the state legislature to develop and implement laws that would better protect the people and the economy of New Mexico during unprecedented times such as this. There must be prevention plans in place that will ensure that our state is healthy, both physically and fiscally. The key is the balance of both, and it is imperative that we protect our citizens from the virus while keeping our state economy open for business.</p>	<p>Our state has been investing money in our education system for many years, and yet we continue to hold a failing national report card. School choice is a favorable option, and has been proven to raise grades, ensure student safety, promote parental satisfaction and involvement, design instruction tailored to the student at their own individual level, and will provide options for low income families to attend any school of their choice regardless of their economic status or location.</p>

State Senate District 10 – Bernalillo

<div><div><div>Katy M. DUHIGG</div><div>Democrat</div></div><div></div></div> <td><p>Supporting our small businesses and developing innovative approaches to economic development. Small businesses are the life blood of any economy. I will help our small businesses recover - and grow - by getting incentive and recovery funds into the hands of those who truly need it. I will also invest in job development and training, and fight to diversify our economy and make New Mexico a leader in renewable energy.</p></td> <td><p>Yes. I do not think that we should do anything to threaten the corpus of the fund, I do support using a larger percentage of the interest the fund generates to fund immediate economic needs.</p></td> <td><p>One of the keys to our success has been a commitment to listening to medical experts and making data-driven, evidence-based decisions whenever possible. We also need to take that approach to crafting solutions for our small businesses, so that we are protecting New Mexicans’ health, and their livelihoods. I commit to working with our business community and economic experts to address the needs of our small businesses, while continuing to follow the science and protecting New Mexicans’ health.</p></td> <td><p>There are many steps that need to be taken to increase child wellbeing in NM, but a big one, especially given the challenges posed by Covid-19, is to make sure we do not balance our budget on the backs of our kids. I will fight all attempts to cut funding for education and early childhood education and care. I will also fight against cuts to health system improvements, which help build skills and provide opportunity for kids and families, and also keep workers employed throughout the state.</p></td>	<p>Supporting our small businesses and developing innovative approaches to economic development. Small businesses are the life blood of any economy. I will help our small businesses recover - and grow - by getting incentive and recovery funds into the hands of those who truly need it. I will also invest in job development and training, and fight to diversify our economy and make New Mexico a leader in renewable energy.</p>	<p>Yes. I do not think that we should do anything to threaten the corpus of the fund, I do support using a larger percentage of the interest the fund generates to fund immediate economic needs.</p>	<p>One of the keys to our success has been a commitment to listening to medical experts and making data-driven, evidence-based decisions whenever possible. We also need to take that approach to crafting solutions for our small businesses, so that we are protecting New Mexicans’ health, and their livelihoods. I commit to working with our business community and economic experts to address the needs of our small businesses, while continuing to follow the science and protecting New Mexicans’ health.</p>	<p>There are many steps that need to be taken to increase child wellbeing in NM, but a big one, especially given the challenges posed by Covid-19, is to make sure we do not balance our budget on the backs of our kids. I will fight all attempts to cut funding for education and early childhood education and care. I will also fight against cuts to health system improvements, which help build skills and provide opportunity for kids and families, and also keep workers employed throughout the state.</p>
<div><div><div>Candace Thompson GOULD</div><div>Republican</div></div><div></div></div> <td><p>Supporting a stable economy is one of the most important responsibilities of our state legislature. A more balanced crafting of policies to support our small businesses and attract new business is vital to our economy’s success. NM’s legislature has been controlled by one party for 90 years and our policies reflect that. Common sense regulations and policies should be crafted with the best ideas of all parties coming together to create family sustaining jobs for all New Mexican’s.</p></td> <td><p>NM’s permanent land grant fund is commonly misunderstood. Created by NM’s founders in 1912, its purpose is to provide funding for education funded from extractions, mainly oil and gas. Knowing that it would be tempting to raid, it requires approval by the legislature, the people and Congress to tap the fund for other expenditures. NM is a financially volatile state. The fund provides stability for educational needs for us and future generations. I do not support spending more principle.</p></td> <td><p>The current policies of personal responsibilities are said to be the best ways of curbing the spread of COVID 19. I support social distancing, frequent hand sanitizing and wearing a mask when out in public. To improve our current policies, I would bring consistency so that everyone has the same rules to remove confusion. Policies need to allow people to provide for their families while balancing a COVID safe environment.</p></td> <td><p>I believe there are many great things about being a kid in NM. Unfortunately, we still consistently received poor rankings in certain areas. I see this firsthand through my 14 years working with foster kids. NM state government role is to create an environment that allows for every parent to be able to feed and care for their children’s needs. I have been working to provide the infrastructure for safe neighborhoods, quality education and good jobs</p></td>	<p>Supporting a stable economy is one of the most important responsibilities of our state legislature. A more balanced crafting of policies to support our small businesses and attract new business is vital to our economy’s success. NM’s legislature has been controlled by one party for 90 years and our policies reflect that. Common sense regulations and policies should be crafted with the best ideas of all parties coming together to create family sustaining jobs for all New Mexican’s.</p>	<p>NM’s permanent land grant fund is commonly misunderstood. Created by NM’s founders in 1912, its purpose is to provide funding for education funded from extractions, mainly oil and gas. Knowing that it would be tempting to raid, it requires approval by the legislature, the people and Congress to tap the fund for other expenditures. NM is a financially volatile state. The fund provides stability for educational needs for us and future generations. I do not support spending more principle.</p>	<p>The current policies of personal responsibilities are said to be the best ways of curbing the spread of COVID 19. I support social distancing, frequent hand sanitizing and wearing a mask when out in public. To improve our current policies, I would bring consistency so that everyone has the same rules to remove confusion. Policies need to allow people to provide for their families while balancing a COVID safe environment.</p>	<p>I believe there are many great things about being a kid in NM. Unfortunately, we still consistently received poor rankings in certain areas. I see this firsthand through my 14 years working with foster kids. NM state government role is to create an environment that allows for every parent to be able to feed and care for their children’s needs. I have been working to provide the infrastructure for safe neighborhoods, quality education and good jobs</p>

STATE SENATOR (continued)

What are your priorities to move New Mexico to a more stable economy? (65 words)

Do you favor tapping the permanent funds, in a greater degree than is currently allowed, to fund immediate economic needs? Please explain your answer. (65 words)

New Mexico has been one of the most successful states in limiting the spread of Covid-19 and in ramping up hospital care and testing. What specifically, would you do to support and improve current policies? (65 words)

Nationally recognized surveys consistently rank New Mexico last as a good place to be a kid. How would you address this problem? (65 words)

State Senate District 11 – Bernalillo**Linda M. LOPEZ**

Democrat



During this time of COVID-19, NM's economy has been hurting. As we continue to lower the infection rate, our economy will slowly recover. Coupled with the pandemic, the price of a barrel of oil dropped drastically. We will have less money to fund our government operations with for the 2022 fiscal year. We could consider raising the PIT for those earning above \$100K/year, but, we also need to sit with the Governor to discuss this and other options she may have.

The monies that are in the permanent fund are needed to keep our state's education system fully funded. We need to fund not just k-12, but also fund the early care that is so necessary to provide opportunity for our families. I have voted in favor of Joint Resolutions that would tap the permanent fund.

The leadership provided by Governor Lujan Grisham has kept NM in the lower COVID-19 positive case numbers. I support the decisions made. NM must move cautiously as we re-open our economy and schools.

Since 2019 we have begun to invest state monies into our education system (early child thru 20). We have invested in the Dept of Health, signed more New Mexicans into Medicaid and SNAP. We have put monies into many departments to provide support for many of our communities. We must be careful to not cut support programs for our families this 2021 Legislative Session.

Marylinda A. PRICE

Republican

NO RESPONSE RECEIVED

State Senate District 12 – Bernalillo**Gerald P. ORTIZ y PINO**

Democrat



We have to get off our oil addiction, a roller coaster that makes genuine economic planning difficult if not impossible. To do that I favor a gradual (over 3 years) process of reducing the amount of oil revenue used in the annual operating budget, shifting those revenues to one-time spending for capital and special projects. To replace it in the operating budget I would revisit our 2004 decision to cut hundreds of millions from Personal Income tax, reconstructing a graduated income tax system.

Yes, I do, with prudent safety valves and periodic reviews. The key to our economic future is our work force, so I view investing in education at all levels as the very best investment of the permanent fund we can possibly make. For twelve years we have consistently under-funded

Unreliable Federal policies make it hard to maintain the effort: unemployment benefits and moratorium on evictions are likely to expire before Congress and President can find a compromise. That will create havoc in NM. Finding dependable source of testing, ventilators and PPE is a priority. And finding creative ways for supporting restaurants and small businesses that can't stay open as normal will make our recovery much smoother and more likely. Reopening schools has to be done cautiously.

Reducing poverty is the key to improving the situation for kids here. Educational achievement, health status, family dissolution, nutrition, housing and mental health all are linked to poverty and are the measures Kids Count uses to rank states. Martinez-Yazzie gives us a clear directive: get serious about educating our minority kids (who comprise 2/3 of our students). Improving employment opportunities, retraining our work force, raising the minimum wage and reforming our tax system will help

Lisa MEYER-HAGEN

Republican



In two years, General Fund spending has increased \$3.1 billion. We owe it to New Mexicans to cut unnecessary spending and eliminate unnecessary programs that do not benefit all New Mexicans. During this challenging economic time, it is imperative to exercise fiscal responsibility, accountability, and resolve to not increase taxes.

The Land Grant Permanent Fund is providing the majority of educational funding and distributions must be maintained at the current level to preserve the fund for future generations. No, I do not support tapping further into permanent funds to fund immediate economic needs. These challenging economic times are an opportunity to cut wasteful spending before considering spending away our children's future.

Thankfully, the spread of Covid-19 seems to have been brought under control. However, emergency powers held by the Governor should be limited by time and impact on the State. It is understood that in times of crisis swift and immediate decision making is necessary but an indefinite timeline, of unilateral decision making with the input of the legislative body, is unacceptable regardless of who is in office.

Resolve to solve the problem.

State Senate District 13 – Bernalillo**Bill B. O'NEILL**

Democrat



We need to move away, dramatically, from our dependence upon oil and gas revenue to meet our annual budgetary demands. We simply cannot count on it, and we shouldn't. In a typical year it is 40% of our state budget revenue, which of course is wonderful to have, but the boom/bust nature of this funding source is not sustainable. We need to do serious tax reform (Gross Receipts & Personal), as well as develop our alternative energy sources. So too with the taxation of legalized marijuana.

Yes, I do favor the tapping of permanent funds, but in a responsible and prudent manner. Certainly the economic circumstance that we are facing right now is dire. I have confidence in our Legislature's ability to come up with a reasonable plan to take advantage of these permanent reserve funds without compromising the financial integrity of the funds themselves.

We need to continue to follow our Governor's leadership, which is simply, and effectively, "to follow the science". Compare our current situation with neighboring states like Texas and Arizona? While not where it should be, we are heading in the right direction, and I support our current policies and applaud our Governor for her political courage in making these tough decisions.

For 3 years I worked closely with incarcerated juvenile offenders as Executive Director of the NM Juvenile Parole Board. I know firsthand the problems of too many of our kids face. We need to continue to improve our high school graduation rate, and so too our investment in early childhood programs that really took shape in the last regular legislative session. There is plenty of room for improvement, obviously. But I do feel as if our state is headed in the right direction.

STATE SENATOR (continued)				
	<i>What are your priorities to move New Mexico to a more stable economy? (65 words)</i>	<i>Do you favor tapping the permanent funds, in a greater degree than is currently allowed, to fund immediate economic needs? Please explain your answer. (65 words)</i>	<i>New Mexico has been one of the most successful states in limiting the spread of Covid-19 and in ramping up hospital care and testing. What specifically, would you do to support and improve current policies? (65 words)</i>	<i>Nationally recognized surveys consistently rank New Mexico last as a good place to be a kid. How would you address this problem? (65 words)</i>
State Senate District 13 – Bernalillo (continued)				
Frederick J. SNOY, II Libertarian	NO RESPONSE RECEIVED			
Michaela M. CHAVEZ Republican	NO RESPONSE RECEIVED			
State Senate District 14 – Bernalillo				
Michael PADILLA Democrat	Continue diversification of our economy into a mix of high growth industries (focus on manufacturing), bellwether industries, and innovative forward thinking new concepts and strategies. Support our small business owners through instate purchasing preferences, and rapid response support services for small business. Make funds available to help students creating intellectual property at our institutions of higher learning so they can remain in NM. Become a world leader in high speed Broadband.	Support additional distributions for education at all levels, to include early education, as I sponsored the legislation that created the Early Education and Care Department, and additional distributions to support K-16 public education. To include safeguards like minimum value of the fund or additional distributions would stop, and sunsets to study actions taken before they can continue. For six years I also sponsored the additional distribution legislation to fund early education services.	I fully support current actions being taken. It is important to me that healthcare professionals be the decision makers related to COVID-19. At the same time, the state should be opened up as goals are achieved. I support the current administration wholeheartedly, because of the results seen. We will never know if the current actions are overbearing, but we would know immediately if the reaction was to little.	I have already taken significant action in this area, as I grew up on foster care and the All Faiths Receiving Home. Was successful in creating the the Early Childhood Education and Care Department, passing the Hunger Free Students’ Bill of Rights, now under consideration in 37 other state legislatures, and have passed multiple pieces of CYFD child protective services reform, including Foster Care to the Age of 21, Foster Care by Other Family Members, and Out of Home Activities For Foster Youth.
Mary Kay INGHAM Republican	At this time, with the current deficit and unknown economic future, I believe that we must stop any new spending and halt any new programs. It is time for us to sacrifice and we should promote a variety of industries in our state, not to exclude any current industries.	No. We must stop indiscriminate spending first.	The current policies in this area are not balanced and are causing a huge economic disaster in our state.	Parents and families are the backbone of New Mexico’s society. We need to support and encourage parents and give them the freedom, tools, and choices they need to care for their children and help them thrive and prosper.
State Senate District 15 – Bernalillo				
Daniel A. IVEY-SOTO Democrat	1) Extend State Ethics Commission jurisdiction to all public officers in the state. 2) Improve educational outcomes. 3) Reduce the level of GRT taxation. 4) Promote continued criminal justice reform.	The permanent funds are an investment. As we rebuild our economy, the permanent fund may be used to fund investments that will pay off over time, but should not be used to fund current operational expenses.	We need clearer laws regarding authority during a crisis. We also need to maintain public health safety while promoting opportunities for small businesses. We also need to figure out how to get children back in school in a way that keeps them safe, especially in the younger grades.	We need to get serious about intergenerational poverty, about improving expectations, about investing in quality of life, and about having good jobs that make staying worthwhile for young people when they graduate.
Sandra B. RAUSCH Republican	Supporting a stable economy is one of the most important responsibilities of our state legislature. A more balanced crafting of policies to support our small businesses and attract new business is vital to our economy’s success. NM’s legislature has been controlled by one party for 90 years and our policies reflect that. Common sense regulations and policies should be crafted with the best ideas of all parties coming together to create family sustaining jobs for all New Mexicans.	New Mexico’s permanent fund is commonly misunderstood. Created by NM’s founders in 1912, its purpose is to provide funding for education and is funded from extractions, mainly oil and gas. It requires approval by the legislature, a vote by the people and approval by Congress to tap the fund for other expenditures. NM is a financially volatile state. The permanent fund provides financial stability for educational needs for us and future generations. I do not support spending more principle.	The current policies of personal responsibilities are said to be the best ways of curbing the spread of COVID 19. I support social distancing staying at least 6 feet apart by all New Mexicans, frequent hand washing and sanitizing, not touching your face and wearing a mask when out in public. To improve our current policies, I would bring consistency to remove confusion. More work needs to be done to allow people to provide for their families while balancing a COVID safe environment.	There are many great things New Mexico offers our children. Unfortunately, we still consistently received poor rankings when compared to other states in certain areas. New Mexico state government role is to create an environment that allows for every parent to be able to feed and care for their children’s needs. I would address the need for a solid infrastructure for supporting safe neighborhoods, quality education and good jobs.

STATE SENATOR (continued)

What are your priorities to move New Mexico to a more stable economy? (65 words)

Do you favor tapping the permanent funds, in a greater degree than is currently allowed, to fund immediate economic needs? Please explain your answer. (65 words)

New Mexico has been one of the most successful states in limiting the spread of Covid-19 and in ramping up hospital care and testing. What specifically, would you do to support and improve current policies? (65 words)

Nationally recognized surveys consistently rank New Mexico last as a good place to be a kid. How would you address this problem? (65 words)

State Senate District 16 – Bernalillo

Antoinette Sedillo LOPEZ
Democrat



We need to transition out of reliance on royalties from oil and gas, which currently funds a large chunk of our government, including education. This source of funding is extremely volatile. It also creates incentives to support this industry at the expense of our environment. We need to encourage clean energy jobs, with wind, solar and thermal. We need to support small businesses and we need to educate our work force to create goods, in clean manufacturing jobs, the arts, and technology

Yes. Our permanent funds are there for the people in the state of New Mexico and should be invested in our people, not Wall Street. I supported 1% for early childhood education. In our current economic client this investment might also include, K-12 and higher education.

Our Governor has been following the relevant science as it emerges. I support her decision-making. Businesses and schools should demonstrate that they have both the capacity and the willingness to protect their employees, customers, students. I would support additional funding to ensure that our schools have the capacity to limit the spread when they open up to in-person education. I would increase public education and continue the transparency about new cases, deaths, and recoveries.

We need to increase the quality and the quantity of social services to address issues presented by poverty, addictions, and violence. We need a coordinated community response to these issues to ensure that all children are healthy and safe. Our education system must be robust and well-resourced. We need to ensure that children have the opportunities they need to thrive. We need to offer more parent education about parenting and to help them have a better life to share with their children.

Chelsea Ann FLANDERS
Republican



We need to start cutting regulations on businesses and make New Mexico business friendly. New Mexico is a great place to live. We now need to make it a great place for businesses. We also need a better criminal justice system that keeps criminals behind bars.

I am not in Favor of tapping into the permanent funds, in a greater degree. When you start taking away the permanent fund. You get less in interest, which is what we usually are using. So it would be a snowball effect and we'd have to continue dipping into the permanent fund. We need to work on our current budget.

I think we need to start moving forward into the next phase. Our economy is just going to continue to decline unless we start having businesses open up. With businesses partially closed it also effects the amount of money our state brings in. Money that our budget is relying on.

We need to start spend our 3-billion-dollar education budget on our students instead of administration. Allow our teachers and parents to decide what is best for the children at their schools.

State Senate District 17 – Bernalillo

Mimi STEWART
Democrat



Increase investments in local small businesses to help them restart and thrive, and keep working to make more jobs available in key industries like wind and solar power and local food production.

The Land Grant Permanent Fund is restricted to fund educational needs, and K-12 in particular. We need to be cautious with this Fund, given the economic downturn. We also have a new Early Childhood Endowment Fund, seeded with \$300 million, which we passed earlier this year, which will go exclusively to early education programs like home visitation, childcare, and PreK.

I strongly support the Governor's leadership. We must wear masks, practice social distancing, and abide by rules established by our state's best public health and medical professionals. There is no place for politics, when it comes to the pandemic. People's lives are at risk--first responders, senior citizens, and everyone else.

We know what children need. It's a matter of passing the right legislation to create programs that we know work. PreK and K-5 Plus are proven programs that create better outcomes in lives for children. We also know that children and their parents need to be healthy and have the food and services they need to succeed.

Rodney D. DESKIN
Republican

NO RESPONSE RECEIVED



State Senate District 18 – Bernalillo

Bill TALLMAN
Democrat



In order to have a more stable economy we need to diversify our economy and become less reliant on oil and gas and government funding. Therefore, I would promote the solar industry since we have an average of 293 days of sunshine and our vast open spaces make it ideal for solar and wind energy projects. Also, I would promote the tourism industry which has great potential to attract folks to the state with its unique culture, low cost of doing business and exceptional outdoor opportunities.



This fund is dictated by legislation to only be used for education. I favor increasing the amount by an amount not to exceed one half of one percent. This limitation is due to the fact that the vast majority of investment experts recommend that the annual distribution from permanent trust funds not exceed 5%. Currently the distribution rate is about 4.3 percent. The Land Grant Permanent fund is not a rainy day fund, as it was established to provide consistent and reliable funding for education.

Because of the Governor's leadership, we have not experienced the high number of deaths and cases of our surrounding states. I would, however, support an increased amount of transparency in the expenditure of emergency funds. The US has experienced the highest number of COVID-19 cases due to our failure to universally follow best practices recommended by the medical experts. If more states had imitated the leadership of our Governor, we would be much closer to approaching "normal" by now.

We must address poverty. Improving educational opportunities for our residents is key. I would advocate for smaller classes, increased parental involvement, better support of our educators, and high-quality pre-school programs. We need to elevate the status of the teacher profession in order to retain and attract the best teachers. Studies provide evidence that teacher quality can have a very substantial impact on student achievement.

STATE SENATOR (continued)			
<i>What are your priorities to move New Mexico to a more stable economy? (65 words)</i>	<i>Do you favor tapping the permanent funds, in a greater degree than is currently allowed, to fund immediate economic needs? Please explain your answer. (65 words)</i>	<i>New Mexico has been one of the most successful states in limiting the spread of Covid-19 and in ramping up hospital care and testing. What specifically, would you do to support and improve current policies? (65 words)</i>	<i>Nationally recognized surveys consistently rank New Mexico last as a good place to be a kid. How would you address this problem? (65 words)</i>

State Senate District 18 – Bernalillo (continued)			
Michael S. CORDOVA Libertarian	NO RESPONSE RECEIVED		
Ryan Alexandra CHAVEZ Republican	NO RESPONSE RECEIVED		
<i>What are your priorities to move New Mexico to a more stable economy? (65 words)</i>	<i>Do you favor tapping the permanent funds, in a greater degree than is currently allowed, to fund immediate educational or economic needs? Please explain your answer. (65 words)</i>	<i>Racial and income inequalities have become important social and economic issues. What actions should the legislature take to address and resolve these issues? (65 words)</i>	<i>What are your major concerns regarding education in New Mexico and how can they be addressed? (65 words)</i>

State Senate District 19 – Bernalillo, Sandoval, Santa Fe, Torrance			
Claudia M. RISNER Democrat	 <p>The way to stabilize our economy is to decrease our reliance on the boom-or-bust cycle of the fossil fuels industry by diversifying our economy. We must create a business-friendly economy that nurtures small, local businesses and increases revenue in other industries such as tourism, outdoor recreation, film, aerospace, and renewable energy. We must improve our education system to build a skilled workforce and provide them healthcare, a living wage, and other benefits to encourage them to stay.</p>	<p>There is a time and place for everything and I believe, in the midst of this great time of need for New Mexicans, it is the time to tap into our permanent funds to ensure the economic safety of our state. Our small businesses need assistance to fully reopen in compliance with safety requirements. Our teachers and schools need additional resources to ensure our students have the opportunity to succeed at virtual learning. Frugal use of our funds is an investment in a more resilient future.</p>	<p>To address our economic and social inequalities we need to raise the minimum wage; provide healthcare to all regardless of their employment status; create legislation that defends human rights and improves conditions for the incarcerated, and provides support for successful reintegration; retrain our police to exercise due process; and create specialized task forces that focus on mental illness and homelessness in the community. We must strive to eliminate systemic racism in New Mexico.</p>
John Douglas MCDIVITT Liberatarian	 <p>We can move to a more stable economy by taking full advantage of our greatest assets: incredible weather and the natural beauty of our state. We should be doing everything we can to attract retirees, small businesses and promote tourism. To do this will require intelligent tax policy changes. I recommend scrapping the onerous gross receipts tax in favor of a minimal sales tax to be applied to non-food goods ONLY. We should offer generous tax incentives to businesses which relocate to New Mexico.</p>	<p>No. Once the precedent has been set to tap the permanent funds there will be a never ending series of “needs” that will require funding. Permanent funds will cease being permanent once they are exhausted.</p>	<p>The national ranking of New Mexico speaks for itself. I believe we need much more competition in education. Competition always results in better outcomes and lower costs. I strongly believe that tax dollars should follow the student. The parents should exercise control over how that money is spent relative to the education of their children not some bureaucracy. I would encourage more charter schools as well as parochial and private schools.</p>
Gregg William SCHMEDES Republican	NO RESPONSE RECEIVED		

“I would like to be remembered as someone who used whatever talent she had to do her work to the very best of her ability.”

– Ruth Bader Ginsburg

STATE SENATOR (continued)

What are your priorities to move New Mexico to a more stable economy? (65 words)

Do you favor tapping the permanent funds, in a greater degree than is currently allowed, to fund immediate economic needs? Please explain your answer. (65 words)

New Mexico has been one of the most successful states in limiting the spread of Covid-19 and in ramping up hospital care and testing. What specifically, would you do to support and improve current policies? (65 words)

Nationally recognized surveys consistently rank New Mexico last as a good place to be a kid. How would you address this problem? (65 words)

State Senate District 20 – Bernalillo

Martin E. HICKEY

Democrat



We need an economic moonshot post-COVID, retooling our economy away from boom and bust cycles of oil & gas. We should support our strengths: agriculture, a growing tech industry, and film. Let's harness our advantages including closeness to Mexico for nearshoring and our solar/wind energy potential. We need to solidify our foundation with better educational outcomes -- universal early childhood education and completion of unfinished degrees (24% of New Mexicans) -- and small business investment.

The world is resetting economically and we can't go back to a pre-covid state of affairs. We must utilize our rich reservoir and water our parched and dying economy. We can selectively invest in universal early childhood education and utilizing our excellent community colleges to push for trade and degree completion. Our economy cannot grow without nourishing it and the time is now when things are bad to infuse small business, build broadband, and support lab tech transfer with investment.

We can support safe reopening by keeping risky activities closed, and investing in small businesses that must pivot in our new reality. Our bottlenecked government services must pivot as well, for instance licensing and MVD must go virtual and online. For future outbreaks, we need complete PPE, an identified "reserve" of adequate tracers and always have in storage the most up to date rapid tests and reagents. Our vaccine roll-out should optimize re-opening such as prioritizing teachers.

Good data consistently support universal early childhood education as a direct path to positive long-term outcomes for New Mexican families. In healthcare, we learned that data-driven case management was essential for better outcomes. CYFD, our school, criminal justice, and workforce solution systems should be better connected enabling better snapshots of families in crisis and where they need support. Finally, we need to rebuild and support access to behavioral health for everyone.

John C. MORTON

Republican

NO RESPONSE RECEIVED

State Senate District 21 – Bernalillo

Athena Ann CHRISTODOULOU

Democrat



NM needs a triple bottom line stance on its economy: people, planet and profit. We deserve clean air, water, and soil. As a tech entrepreneur and senator I would develop coalitions toward a clean, diverse, and 22nd century-focused economy. We will need to be friendlier to small businesses, upgrade our broadband communications statewide, and focus on our tourism, film, space, beneficial electrification, and tech transfer industries.

Yes. The fund was established over 100 years ago and has grown enough to tap. More importantly, we need to invest in our citizens' education and transition to clean energy, now, so there IS a good future. Honesty, transparency, and evidence-based decisions tempered by compassion can still save us. We have great natural resources besides minerals and fossil fuels. We have human resources who now need bolstering and encouragement to step up to their full potential. Invest in our future...citizens.

NM did an excellent job creating private-public coalitions and a universal COVID-19 healthcare system. When everyone shared, donated, and contributed across racial, ethnic, political and socio-economic boundaries we, New Mexicans, met and defeated an insidious enemy virus. This is the perfect time to "pause and reflect." That same focused and universal action will soon need to be echoed in addressing the impending climate calamity and New Mexico has the opportunity to be the same island of hope.

Our children are our future. Let's ensure good education and care begins early. This means engaging the parents right after a child's birth, providing universal preschool, and creating a robust public education system focused on the basics and STEAM. Teachers, parents, and students need to be included in the decision-making processes. The care and focus we used in COVID to protect our elderly needs to turn to our youngest now. Poor and uneducated is for developing countries, not New Mexico.

Mark David MOORES

Republican

NO RESPONSE RECEIVED

State Senate District 22 – Bernalillo, McKinley, Rio Arriba, San Juan, Sandoval

Benny SHENDO, Jr.

Democrat

NO RESPONSE RECEIVED

Susan E. AGUAYO

Republican



Currently our state is suffering from so many loss of jobs because their livelihoods have been taken away from being able to support their families. Which in return not only has it affected having more homelessness but also the effect of mental health. I am looking to help those people who are desperately in need of services to help them get back on track.

I totally disagree. I understand our state is going through a hardship but I believe we can find another way from now till end of the year on putting our economy back on track. We currently risk the chance by tapping now and then continuing to tap again. Our current shortfall is so large by tapping to the permanent funds and our reserve won't be the solution.

I believe that we should concentrate on assisting the areas that are mostly affected and not sacrifice the areas that are well and need to continue to work and support their families. I would advise to open up businesses and allow them to be responsible to limiting an average of people as well as preparing for social distancing.


Unfortunately we continue to rank last in education and top in crime. I believe that is because we are not putting our chickens in order. I would point out the history and culture that is offered for our children is not easily found anywhere else.

STATE SENATOR (continued)				
	<i>What are your priorities to move New Mexico to a more stable economy? (65 words)</i>	<i>Do you favor tapping the permanent funds, in a greater degree than is currently allowed, to fund immediate economic needs? Please explain your answer. (65 words)</i>	<i>New Mexico has been one of the most successful states in limiting the spread of Covid-19 and in ramping up hospital care and testing. What specifically, would you do to support and improve current policies? (65 words)</i>	<i>Nationally recognized surveys consistently rank New Mexico last as a good place to be a kid. How would you address this problem? (65 words)</i>
State Senate District 23 – Bernalillo				
<div>Harold James POPE, Jr. Democrat</div> <div></div>	The time is now for New Mexico to move to a more diverse economy and transition into the future. We must move to renewable energy sources as well as the manufacturing of components and invest in small businesses, entrepreneurship, and the leveraging tech transfer from our Nat. Labs and universities. Industries like aerospace/aviation, bioscience, cybersecurity, advanced manufacturing, value added food processing, and renewable & sustainable green industries must be part of the portfolio.	Yes. Our families, small business owners, and industries have been severely impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. We have already stepped up as a state to provide low interest loans but we must do more to help these businesses survive this pandemic and save jobs. We should make smart targeted investments in not only the businesses that are being impacted but we should be making investments in order to create new jobs and industries to get us out of this economic hole.	The Governor acted early and decisively in order to save lives, relying on scientific advice from public health experts and medical professionals. This was accomplished without a national plan or strategy coming from the White House. Going forward we must promote policies that continue to decrease the spread of COVID-19 at the same time addressing the disparities facing many in our community like hunger, unemployment, healthcare, homelessness, and access to broadband.	We should be fully funding early childhood education and providing more support to our families. The creation of the Early Childhood Education & Care Dept will improve academic achievement, develop social skills, and providing support to our families as well as being an economic driver. Without the proper investment this will never materialize. This is but one area, we must also address clean water access, childcare, housing, broadband, healthcare, tax reform, wages, and paid time off.
<div>Sander RUE Republican</div> <div></div>	We must diversify our economy to lessen our dependence on the volatile oil and gas industries and the federal government. We as legislators must empower the private sector economy to grow and prosper through comprehensive tax reform and elimination of onerous and counterproductive rules and regulations.	In the 2020 legislative session I co-sponsored Senate Bill 3 which requires the State Investment Council to commit the lesser of \$400 million or 10% of the value of the severance tax permanent fund for "small business recovery loans". I felt this was necessary and an appropriate use of this permanent fund to aid our economy by getting small businesses back on their feet and people back to work.	Initially, in order to address the uncertainty and need for action to deal with the pandemic immediate action was necessary. It now seems certain that our responses must address a longer time frame and more rapidly changing conditions than originally imagined. That being the case, it is time for the Governor and legislature, working together, to develop longer term strategies to address both public health and economic recovery plans necessary to put New Mexicans safely back to work.	By reforming our public education system and assuring all children access to comprehensive and continuous health care. The legislature also needs to act on criminal justice reform that assures our families will be safe and secure in our homes and communities.
State Senate District 26 – Bernalillo				
<div>Jacob R. CANDELARIA Democrat</div> <div></div>	NO RESPONSE RECEIVED			
<div>Manuel LARDIZABAL Republican</div> <div></div>	Making sure equal distribution based on economic activity and tax income production by county be implemented. Faze out unconstitutional spending in both the mandatory and discretionary portions of the budget. Making sure that oil production continues safely. There would be a loss of approximately 142,000 jobs and New Mexicans would earn approximately \$26 billion less in household income if fracking is not available to produce, This would bring more devastation to New Mexico.	No, the current allotment along with the millions of dollars give in federal aid is enough for know.	- no response -	Many issues affecting the future and destiny of our kids such as crime, a failing education system, and poverty. It forces a child to function from a place of limitations, so they spend there childhood life trying to get there needs met, and doing things to survive instead of living a productive childhood life. We need to tackle crime, restructure the education system and create new opportunities to create wealth in New Mexico.
State Senate District 29 – Valencia, Bernalillo				
<div>Paul A. BACA Democrat</div> <div></div>	1. Look at Education as Economic Development by properly investing in it. 2. Expand the movie industry in New Mexico 3. Legalize recreational cannabis 4. Expand investment in renewable energy My approach is making a short term investment for long term returns on investment, taking our focus off of our reliance on the oil and gas industry which has proven not to be a stable, reliable source of revenue for New Mexico	Yes, I believe the permanent fund is a rainy day fund, we are in the middle of a storm. I believe that we should utilize the permanent fund to properly invest in education and build a strong education system that would help attract industry and jobs to New Mexico. It is foolish for us to continue down the same road of not utilizing resources available to us in order to create a more robust education system and a more stable economy.	I support the efforts of the current administration that has been successful in slowing the spread of the virus, including the efforts to responsibly open schools and business as well as the mandates for face protection and social distancing. I would encourage further investment and looking at, in particular, business sectors and helping them to return to a new model of operation, with input from business owners who are dealing with the challenges on a daily basis.	I would properly invest in education, expanding investment in pre-school and early childhood education. I would invest in the expansion of technical and vocational training programs. If we do not invest in education to the level that is needed, we will not see New Mexico move forward.
<div>Gregory A. BACA Republican</div> <div></div>	NO RESPONSE RECEIVED			

STATE SENATOR (continued)


<i>What are your priorities to move New Mexico to a more stable economy? (65 words)</i>	<i>Do you favor tapping the permanent funds, in a greater degree than is currently allowed, to fund immediate economic needs? Please explain your answer. (65 words)</i>	<i>New Mexico has been one of the most successful states in limiting the spread of Covid-19 and in ramping up hospital care and testing. What specifically, would you do to support and improve current policies? (65 words)</i>	<i>Nationally recognized surveys consistently rank New Mexico last as a good place to be a kid. How would you address this problem? (65 words)</i>
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State Senate District 30 – Valencia, Cibola, Socorro, McKinley

Pamela M. CORDOVA Democrat 	First, we must defeat COVID-19 and build back our economy, focusing on resilience and the communities hardest hit by the virus. New Mexico's people are our most valuable resource, and ensuring that economic opportunity and prosperity are shared will help strengthen our communities and create economic stability. We must continue to invest in public education, empower workers and ensure fair competition in the marketplace, and invest in developing new, growing economic sectors.	I support an amendment to draw an additional 1% per year from the Land Grant Permanent Fund to fund early childhood education programs. Studies show a high public return in early investments in childhood programs including a more educated workforce, less crime, and a stronger economy.	Healthcare needs must be met across the small towns and rural communities in our state. I support fully funding Medicaid to serve those currently eligible and to leverage additional federal dollars; medical loan forgiveness programs for all healthcare professionals who practice in rural areas; and improving broadband for Telehealth technology to give rural access to specialists. I will also champion a Medicaid buy-in program for New Mexicans.	New Mexico's children face the highest rate of childhood poverty in the U.S. and a lack of strong social support and community resources. Our state needs to address poverty through economic development and worker protections that make sure we reward hard work with economic stability and prosperity. We must also ensure that education dollars are being used on teaching and student services, and invest in community resources to support families and childhood development.
Joshua A. SANCHEZ Republican	NO RESPONSE RECEIVED			

<i>What are your priorities to move New Mexico to a more stable economy? (65 words)</i>	<i>Do you favor tapping the permanent funds, in a greater degree than is currently allowed, to fund immediate educational or economic needs? Please explain your answer. (65 words)</i>	<i>Racial and income inequalities have become important social and economic issues. What actions should the legislature take to address and resolve these issues? (65 words)</i>	<i>What are your major concerns regarding education in New Mexico and how can they be addressed? (65 words)</i>
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State Senate District 39 – Santa Fe, Bernalillo, Torrance, Lincoln, San Miguel, Valencia

Elizabeth "Liz" STEFANICS Democrat 	This all will need to take place over several years - new revenues from an equitable standard. (i.e. hybrid and electric vehicles; renewable energy after installation and long term utilization). Legalize and tax marijuana after careful consideration. Expand sustainable tourism throughout the state. Review and retire tax exemptions and credits that do not benefit New Mexicans.	I have voted for both of these measures in the past - permanent funds for early childhood education and permanent funds to benefits our small businesses. Any use of the permanent funds should be judicious and a small percentage of the interest not the corpus.	We must continue to address poverty and literacy in our state - Broadband and IT services around the entire state. Racial inequalities in our state cover many different groups, African American, Jewish, sometimes Hispanic, sometimes Mexican, immigrants, Asian, etc. Task forces are complementary in nature but are not statutory and long lasting. Address educational inequalities, public safety standards, health and human services, and more in every piece of legislation that we consider.	Small class sizes; adequate bilingual and multilingual teachers and staff; appropriate compensation levels; broadband around the entire state; IT supplies and services where needed; improvement of facilities; and upgrades of school infrastructure (water and sewer). Initiate new support for all of our rural libraries.
Joseph C. TIANO Republican	NO RESPONSE RECEIVED			

State Senate District 40 – Sandoval

Craig W. BRANDT Republican	UNOPPOSED			
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“One of the penalties for refusing to participate in politics is that you end up being governed by your inferiors.”
– Plato

STATE REPRESENTATIVE DISTRICT MAP


This map illustrates the 31 legislative districts of Santa Clara County, New Mexico. The districts are numbered 1 through 31, with some numbers appearing in multiple locations (e.g., 10, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31). The map shows the county's boundaries, major roads, and surrounding areas. Key locations include the Pecos River, Rio Grande, and various towns and cities. The map is oriented with North at the top.

STATE REPRESENTATIVE


Two-year term. Represents district in NM House of Representatives, which has 70 members. In odd-numbered years the legislature meets for 60 days; in even-numbered years it meets for 30 days. The Governor may call special sessions. In addition to other duties prescribed by law, representatives enact “reasonable and appropriate laws,” represent the constituents in their districts, and serve on standing or interim committees. Candidates must be at least twenty-one years old and be a resident of the district from which elected. No salary, but \$167 per day (winter) and \$192 per day (summer) plus mileage at the federal reimbursement rate while in session or at interim meetings.

<i>What are your priorities to move New Mexico to a more stable economy? (65 words)</i>	<i>Do you favor tapping the permanent funds, in a greater degree than is currently allowed, to fund immediate economic needs? Please explain your answer. (65 words)</i>	<i>New Mexico has been one of the most successful states in limiting the spread of Covid-19 and in ramping up hospital care and testing. What specifically, would you do to support and improve current policies? (65 words)</i>	<i>Nationally recognized surveys consistently rank New Mexico last as a good place to be a kid. How would you address this problem? (65 words)</i>
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State Representative District 7 – Valencia

Santos GRIEGO Democrat 	Manufacturing our own goods. We have an agriculture gold mine of opportunities to generate revenue. Cattle, Dairy, Wind, solar. We need to not be dependent on others for our survival we have strong, educated, motivated ingenuitive people that has and will continue to create a stable economy that takes into respect for peoples safety, protection of our environment living wages and benefits for the employees. instituting and perpetuating existing Apprenticeship programs.	yes if in times of extreme need the State Government must use from these funds that were created and approved by New Mexicans to shore up the shortfalls. After all we are all in this together! This is our State Government and it must work for us.	If the Policies are working lets keep up the momentum promoting. I do not believe by imposing stricter enforcements will necessarily encourage people to do the right thing. although we are a country of law and order.	I would first disagree with the survey that New Mexico is last as a good place to be a kid. Myself growing up in New Mexico and now an adult don't believe nor do consider that claim valid. Good Places is where we make the best of what we have. New Mexico has an abundance of good places to be a kid. The many great hard working dedicated people of this great state makes us the best places to be a kid.
Kelly K. FAJARDO Republican	NO RESPONSE RECEIVED			


State Representative District 8 – Valencia


Paul Matthew KINZELMAN Democrat 	Invest in renewable energy, wind & solar because after a few years, it pays for itself. With all our sun, we should be exporting power to other states. Change our tax structure to be more progressive including reducing taxes on retirement and social security income, to attract retirees to the state. Support research in emerging energy and energy storage technologies, especially thorium reactor research. It does not have the waste problems that uranium reactors have.	In general, we should not use the principal of the permanent fund which would make it not permanent, but right now we have a fiscal emergency due to COVID-19. When your house is on fire, you may need to use some of your retirement nest-egg that you would normally not use. However, we should also look at structuring a loan from the permanent fund instead of a direct expenditure.	The state has done a good job, better than most, at containing COVID-19 so the only thing I could think of would be trying to get people to take the issue more seriously. Perhaps there could be some way for big companies that are still open, like Walmart, who could subsidize smaller businesses that are closed.	-More tapping into land grant fund earnings to invest in early childhood education -More support (like childcare) for low income working families to better support quality parenting - Listening to the disenfranchised population and develop an action plan from input from those sectors of the population that have been disenfranchised, largely the Native American and Latino populations.
Alonzo BALDONADO Republican	NO RESPONSE RECEIVED			


State Representative District 10 – Bernalillo


G. Andres ROMERO Democrat 	Support for our local, small businesses needs to be the priority for economic stability in the state. We must continue to foster relationships between our schools and local businesses/industries to work with and train our students for employment opportunities. Establishing a firm school to career pipeline in the state will benefit students with the skills needed for a post graduation career and will benefit local businesses by providing a steady stream of well trained local employees.	We must increase the disbursement from the Land Grant Permanent Fund to appropriately fund early childhood education and our K-12 system. By making an early investment in our children and families, we will provide a firm foundation for all New Mexicans to thrive in their lives, their education, and as productive citizens. By having home visitation available for all new parents, universal pre-k and more in-class resources we will raise the quality of life for all New Mexicans.	New Mexico has limited the spread of COVID-19 by listening to and following the guidance of the scientific community. It is crucial we continue to listen to what the emerging science is telling us about the virus. We must continue to ramp up the state's testing availability, reduce the wait time for test results, support our rapid response teams and bolster our contact tracing capabilities.	We must take a holistic approach to this issue. New Mexico children need well qualified and well trained educators from prenatal through to college/career. We can do this by increasing the distributions from the LGPF. New Mexican families need stable, well paying jobs. We must continue to expand the state's career technical education services for students and support job retraining for adults. Also, all New Mexicans need a good, clean environment to live and raise our families in.
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STATE REPRESENTATIVE (continued)			
<i>What are your priorities to move New Mexico to a more stable economy? (65 words)</i>	<i>Do you favor tapping the permanent funds, in a greater degree than is currently allowed, to fund immediate economic needs? Please explain your answer. (65 words)</i>	<i>New Mexico has been one of the most successful states in limiting the spread of Covid-19 and in ramping up hospital care and testing. What specifically, would you do to support and improve current policies? (65 words)</i>	<i>Nationally recognized surveys consistently rank New Mexico last as a good place to be a kid. How would you address this problem? (65 words)</i>

State Representative District 10 – Bernalillo (continued)			
<div><div><div>Dinah Glenda VARGAS</div><div>Republican</div></div><div></div></div>	For starters, open New Mexico and resume normal business routine.	No. As a permanent fund its there as a long term asset and should not be considered for budget shortfalls.	I would support continued use of updated information, data, therapeutics, vaccines, and hospitals. I support careful study of all Covid-19 NM data. I DO NOT support any over reach of government.
New Mexico is ranks dead last because because we don't put our children first and certain and we are now considered a trafficking state, thanks to Zorro Ranch. Everyone knows about it and does nothing.			

State Representative District 11 – Bernalillo			
<div><div><div>Javier I. MARTINEZ</div><div>Democrat</div></div><div></div></div>	NO RESPONSE RECEIVED		

<div><div><div>Adrian Anthony TRUJILLO, Sr.</div><div>Republican</div></div><div></div></div>	Implement the tax payer bill of rights, this would encourage national businesses and local entrepreneurs to invest. Recruiting out of state businesses to invest in NM would be a priority and could be done by highlighting everything NM has to offer; 300+ days of sunshine, open spaces, and tourist industry.	I would work closely with SIC to figure out how we could do so responsibly as well as pursue every avenue to ensure that our people are taken care of, if there is a way to provide more for the most vulnerable; all options should be on the table.	- no response -
there are many issues faceiing our children in our great state to start we need to improve our education system APS is largest independent school district in the U.S. and should be held to a higher standard. Investing in tele-communication and internet infrastture for even the most rural areas of NM to ensure every student as access equally to curriculum and research portals. makeing sure our children are safe by implementing laws to keep those who would harm a child behind bar			

State Representative District 12 – Bernalillo			
<div><div><div>Brittney Aileene BARRERAS</div><div>DTS</div></div><div></div></div>	Especialy because of the COVID pandemic, we need to start right now to build back up all of the mom-and-pop shops that make the South Valley so special. That means additional grants and low-interest loans, as well as support for the South Valley's young entrepreneurs who want to start their own business.	I support tapping the Land Grant Permanent Fund to fund early childhood education, like home visitation, childcare, and PreK.	I am a strong supporter of Governor Michelle Lujan Grisham's science-based leadership. Masks and social distancing help immensely. We must flatten the curve so that the elderly, first responders, and teachers are protected.
I'm a firm believer in starting earlier. The data shows that programs like PreK and K-5 Plus create better outcomes for children. Ninety percent of brain development happens by the time you are five years old. If we are to move our state up in the rankings, we have to start when children are young.			

<div><div><div>Art De La CRUZ</div><div>Democrat</div></div><div></div></div>	We've great people, climate, inter-modal transportation systems, and no natural disasters; yet, overlooked by national and global business seeking to expand. We must create inducements and become serious contenders globally. Keep our post secondary graduates in NM by passing a State-sponsored student loan program with 0% interest if graduates agree to work in NM, leaving results in a 1-2% interest rate. Staying in NM creates needed economic energy and synergy enhancing State and local revenue.	I believe that the permanent funds should be left in tact with the exception of an absolute State or National emergency. However, interest generated beyond the principal amount of these permanent funds could be considered for use in a very narrow and limited basis. Its' use would be recommended by the legislature and approved by the Governor.	The legislature can pass legislation that would ensure that revenue is adequate to safeguard readily and easily accessed COVID-19 testing, timely results and contact tracing to our residents. Additionally, the legislature can pass law that supports the Governor in efforts to fund, buy and maintain medical supplies and PPE in reserve and to be made available to the population when needed.
The State must partner with local governments to coordinate and invest in aspects affecting children in the areas of socio-economic, education, and health care. By supporting minimum wage in-creases, lives of children are made better physically and psychologically when their parent/s have jobs that pay a living wage. I support Pre-K. To ensure children have adequate nutrition during non-school months, State and Federal government must feed children eligible for free and reduced lunch.			

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STATE REPRESENTATIVE (continued)

What are your priorities to move New Mexico to a more stable economy? (65 words)

Do you favor tapping the permanent funds, in a greater degree than is currently allowed, to fund immediate economic needs? Please explain your answer. (65 words)

New Mexico has been one of the most successful states in limiting the spread of Covid-19 and in ramping up hospital care and testing. What specifically, would you do to support and improve current policies? (65 words)

Nationally recognized surveys consistently rank New Mexico last as a good place to be a kid. How would you address this problem? (65 words)

State Representative District 13 – Bernalillo

Patricia A. ROYBAL CABELLERO
Democrat



Raise wages to \$15/hr., paid family leave; reduce incentives to corporations irresponsible in their use; create long term, sustainable jobs with living wages with benefits beneficial to families such as paid family leave, affordable healthcare; skills & professional development promoting upward mobility & higher wages; invest in renewable energy industries & technologies of the future; support home grown start-ups and incentivize small business development & expansion. Diverse industries are key

Yes, and the Pandemic further confirms this. The amount will depend on a number of factors such as the Oil & Gas revenue recovery, how much support we can expect from the federal government and what we can use to invest in our own future economic recovery needs. These factors will help determine budget gaps and how much we can leverage resources for investment priorities, such as in skills development and small business loans. These investment priorities result in a stronger economy with increas

I believe the best way to support the successful practices instituted by our Governor and her administration, is to stand strong and united behind what we've seen to be proven practices. I would support more contact tracing capabilities such as hiring in higher numbers, particularly, in hot zones likely to re-flare. And without a doubt, explore more innovative and effective ways to mass test. NM should lead in this area due to the high numbers in our tribal & Latino communities. And continue to

We have already begun to address this problem under a new administration. We recognize the vital importance of early childhood education, child development programs and strategies from pre-K & in child-care by creating & institutionalizing an Early Childhood department in state government. We have to offer cultural & language relevant teaching and offer Ethnic Studies from Pre-K-12, social & health services, food security, physical & art teaching, social/ emotional & mental health counseling, en

Kayla Renee MARSHALL
Republican

NO RESPONSE RECEIVED

State Representative District 14 – Bernalillo

Miguel P. GARCIA
Democrat

UNOPPOSED

State Representative District 15 – Bernalillo

Dayan "Day" M. HOCHMAN-VIGIL
Democrat



New Mexico must prioritize diversification of state revenue sources to in order to stabilize our economy. In addition to continuing to support the renewable energy and film industries, we can further diversify our economy by legalizing recreational marijuana and supporting other developing industries such as ecotourism, sustainable agriculture, STEM-based education opportunities, manufacturing and commercial space development. We must also re-evaluate our taxation system.

Yes, after we have fully leveraged the availability of federal CARES Act funding, first. Once we know that information, we will have a better idea as to how much more funding is needed to save New Mexico small businesses, assist families and individuals, and keep our economy afloat. We have already tapped the New Mexico Severance Tax Permanent Fund as part of the New Mexico Small Business Recovery Act in the 2020 special session to continue to prop up New Mexico small businesses.

In order to continue to successfully fight the virus, New Mexico needs to concentrate on contact tracing and rapid testing availability to all New Mexicans, even if they are asymptomatic, as it becomes more accurate and scientifically-sound. We also need to continue to improve waiting times between test execution and result notification/initiation of quarantine. New Mexicans also must continue to wear masks and practice social distancing to reduce the spread of disease.

The Legislature must continue to invest in New Mexico's children by appropriating additional funding for education, including early childhood education and development. We must also support New Mexico families with access to vibrant careers that offer living wages, healthcare that covers pre-existing conditions, whole family support (including access to childcare and home visiting), and further economic diversification of state revenue sources so as to ensure such resources are available.

Ranota Q. BANKS
Libertarian

NO RESPONSE RECEIVED

Ali ENNENGA
Republican

NO RESPONSE RECEIVED

State Representative District 16 – Bernalillo

Antonio "Moe" MAESTAS
Democrat



We cannot afford another 10-year recession. We must invest in human capital, save our restaurants, hospitality & tourism industries, and keep graduates here in NM. We can encourage economic growth & investment by reducing barriers to entry (e.g., liquor license reform), facilitating access to capital and assisting young entrepreneurs and small businesses succeed. For a qualified modern workforce we must invest in early childhood education & address the concerns of the Martinez/Yazzie plaintiffs.

We must double our efforts from the special session with more business loans from the STPF. For education, I strongly support using 1% or more off the top of our \$20 Billion LGPF for early childhood services. Whether you view the fund as a development fund or a generational equity fund, the 4% annual distribution for education is too low considering it grows 11% annually. We can go higher because the earmarked money we don't spend that year remains in the investment account collecting interest.

Despite the tremendous hardships I support the efforts that have kept us safe. We need to constantly evaluate our virtual classrooms and continually improve education and outreach so we open up responsibly. The health order comes from very old statutes and needs modernization. It needs guiding principles including scientific educational campaigns, strategies to support small businesses, and increased outdoor recreational opportunities (especially for children to fight depression).

We must aggressively organize our families to embrace home visiting programs throughout the state. We must fully fund early educational services NOW but using 1% or more off the top of our \$20 Billion permanent school fund for early childhood services. Community colleges should accreditate early education teachers as quickly as possible. We must end domestic violence and pass my Family Success Lab bill to track poor families across agencies to ensure the best outcomes for all of our children.

STATE REPRESENTATIVE (continued)				
	What are your priorities to move New Mexico to a more stable economy? (65 words)	Do you favor tapping the permanent funds, in a greater degree than is currently allowed, to fund immediate economic needs? Please explain your answer. (65 words)	New Mexico has been one of the most successful states in limiting the spread of Covid-19 and in ramping up hospital care and testing. What specifically, would you do to support and improve current policies? (65 words)	Nationally recognized surveys consistently rank New Mexico last as a good place to be a kid. How would you address this problem? (65 words)
State Representative District 16 – Bernalillo (continued)				
Antoinette Bernice TAFT Republican	NO RESPONSE RECEIVED			
State Representative District 17 – Bernalillo				
Deborah A. ARMSTRONG Democrat	 <p>We should invest in diverse economic development. Areas for development that are a particularly good fit for New Mexico and worth maintaining or expanding include cannabis and hemp, film, tourism, tech and space industries, research, small farms, healthcare, and renewable energy. Also, infrastructure investment and creating a friendly and supportive environment for retirees and an aging population would be worthwhile.</p>	<p>I support tapping the permanent funds for investment in early childhood education, as it is one of the best long-term economic investments we can make. In the current economic crisis, I would also support utilizing those funds for investment in economic development. I'm not supportive of utilizing the funds for recurring expenses that don't have a significant return on investment but investing in efforts that help our families, communities and state recover more quickly are worth considering.</p>	<p>I fully support the Governor's actions to address and control the spread of COVID-19. Going forward, I believe we need to increase our public health capacity, including contact tracing. I also support investment in infrastructure necessary for schools and healthcare providers to fully deliver in a socially distanced environment. This means, among other things, expanding broadband, IT systems and Telehealth and reconfiguring physical plants, as necessary.</p>	<p>Even though the Annie E. Casey 2020 Kids Count report ranks NM as 50th, we have shown improvement in almost every category. We must continue on a path that prioritizes and invests in education, access to healthcare and financial security of families. Unless we address the health, education and social determinants of well-being, such as poverty, hunger and housing, we will continue to lag behind the rest of the country in child well-being.</p>
Scott GOODMAN Libertarian	NO RESPONSE RECEIVED			
Kimberley Ann KAEHR-MACMILLAN Republican	NO RESPONSE RECEIVED			
State Representative District 18 – Bernalillo				
Gail CHASEY Democrat	UNOPPOSED			
State Representative District 19 – Bernalillo				
Sheryl M. Williams STAPLETON Democrat	 <p>Our economy depends on the availability of jobs with wages that can support our residents. That means we need to have employment opportunities in sectors that are growing such as health and medical services, IT, administration and management, and financial services as a few examples. To prepare a workforce for these jobs, we need educational programs that link career technical education programs with businesses and employers. At the same time, we need to develop stable revenue streams and a refo</p>	<p>Using the permanent fund wisely to make investments can stimulate the economy while economists consider the likelihood that the investment can provide a solid return on investment. Using the principles of 'prudent investment', permanent funds that meet immediate economic needs can stabilize our economy and prevent a downturn that potentially cannot be reversed.</p>	<p>Our state has taken strong measures to restrict the spread of Covid-19 that are showing positive results and we are just learning about how the virus can be transmitted through air circulation in closed environments. I would continue our current practices and expand our understanding and guidance on air flow, air conditioning, and ventilation in general.</p>	<p>At the heart of this challenging statistic we see a lack of equity of opportunity for all our children. Often this is connected to poverty, geography and minority status but there are at-risk students everywhere. I have worked hard in the Legislature to secure funding and resources for these students (nearly 80% of all New Mexico children) and as an educator will continue to fight for the promise of all our students.</p>
Mark Austin CURTIS Libertarian	<p>review occupational licensing requirements, reduce business hostile regulation, encourage better environment for private and charter schools so the workforce will be better educated</p>	<p>NO. There elements within state government that will not be satisfied until they have spent every cent in the permanent funds. The permanent funds were created to provide for a future when the resources are depleted or, as seems increasingly likely, banned. State officials do not have a particularly good record when choosing long term "investments" often plunking for the popular hobbyhorse of the day.</p>	<p>I believe the governor has generally done a good job managing however, (there's always a however) the "one size fits all" aspects of her policies have injured parts of the state that have very low infection rates or/ long periods between positive tests. Do we have a follow-up program for those who test positive or do we just carry them as infected until they report themselves cured? humanity has a poor history of curing or even treating any corona virus; it will be with us for a very long time</p>	<p>Start by reviewing the criteria used. Give them a decent education. Make it easier for their parents to earn a living. Let's try to get some of the violent criminals off the streets. I don't know. Quit telling them they can't succeed without some benevolent bureaucrat holding their hand. More taxes, more regulation and more government isn't going to produce anything except more government suppression of entrepreneurial effort. Believe in them.</p>

STATE REPRESENTATIVE (continued)

What are your priorities to move New Mexico to a more stable economy? (65 words)

Do you favor tapping the permanent funds, in a greater degree than is currently allowed, to fund immediate economic needs? Please explain your answer. (65 words)

New Mexico has been one of the most successful states in limiting the spread of Covid-19 and in ramping up hospital care and testing. What specifically, would you do to support and improve current policies? (65 words)

Nationally recognized surveys consistently rank New Mexico last as a good place to be a kid. How would you address this problem? (65 words)

State Representative District 19 – Bernalillo (continued)

Stephen J. CECCO
Republican

NO RESPONSE RECEIVED

Meredith A. DIXON
Democrat



To have a more stable economy, we must diversify. We can do that by fostering industries that leverage our states' competitive advantages, such as aerospace and renewable energy. At the same time, we must support our existing businesses by providing access to the tools they need to grow, like capital and physical space. Additionally, we need to critically assess our state's revenue and should reform the gross receipts tax to level the playing field.

NM is facing what may be its worst economic crisis in history. Current economic forecasts are predicting a slow recovery and an entire generation of children may face the consequences if we don't act. Restrictions on the severance tax permanent fund require it to be used for investments. There are meaningful investments that we can make in hard-working New Mexicans, small businesses, and infrastructure that will help our state get back on track and will offer a long-term return on investment.

New Mexico should continue to use science and data to guide policy decisions. We should also be certain to leverage all federal funding options and provide our full support for our essential workers, first responders, and health care professionals, for instance by ensuring adequate supplies of necessary personal protective equipment.

Making New Mexico a better place to be a child will require attention to all aspects of childhood wellbeing. Improving educational outcomes and access to early childhood services is critical, but we must also ensure that we are supporting our children and working families by providing access to high-quality childcare and affordable healthcare and paying our workers a wage that will allow them to put food on the table and a roof over their heads.

Michael Eugene HENDRICKS
Republican



Reform Tax Code and NMGR. And, diversify the economy.

Generally, no. I would always prefer cutting unnecessary spending, of which there is plenty. But if it is for something that the constitution allows and if the situation becomes so dire that there is no other way to prevent the state from falling into bankruptcy, then I would listen and consider.

I would take into consideration the increasing number of lives we have lost and will continue to lose due to economic insecurity, poverty, mental illness, and suicide, and work to restore economic freedom and prosperity to New Mexico.

We must work to reform the education system and make sure that the dollars are getting to the classroom - not stuck in the administration, which grows more bloated every year while our kids suffer. We must reform CYFD to allow for efficiency and prevention. Lastly, we must diversify our economy to bring in better paying jobs and lift families out of poverty.

State Representative District 21 – Bernalillo

Debra Marie SARINANA
Democrat



We must ensure small businesses recover from the pandemic. During the Special Session, I voted for \$400 million in small business loan funds. We must continue to transition our state from fossil fuels to renewable energy, providing thousands of new jobs and small business opportunities. We need to better fund our higher education institutions so that they can provide programs related to clean energy by way of new curriculums that will train for jobs in clean energy for the future.

I support a one percent additional draw from the Land Grant Permanent Fund to support early childhood education programs, like home visitation, childcare, and PreK.

We must continue to practice what the best science tells us: wearing masks, practicing social distancing, and restricting large gatherings. I continue to support the Governor's strong leadership on the pandemic. It's the only way to flatten the curve and protect the health of our senior citizens and front-line workers.

My top priority is early education. As a high school teacher I see kids coming to high school with low skills, which makes success difficult. Getting a good start in education by starting early is a key to student success. Creating equity in math and English for students of color and low-income students in our public schools is also critical. I sponsored legislation to have new teachers mentor with a master teacher. Better education will produce students who have better outcomes in life.

Paul Ryan MCKENNEY
Libertarian



Remove government interference in the economy.


I do not favor the government funding any economic needs. Government interference causes distortions that inevitably end up causing even more economic devastation in the future.

I would allow small businesses to reopen and get New Mexico back to work. Once again those in government are not looking at the side effects of the policies they put in place. How many suicides have occurred because people have lost everything they worked their whole life for? How many drug overdoses have happened because an addict relapsed while laid off and suffering from a lack of human connection? Unfortunately these statistics will never be gathered.



Children need a decent education, and government cannot be trusted to do anything well. The first step is to end the PED and institute universal fully-funded vouchers for EVERY child in New Mexico. We also need to ensure the CYFD and the police are using the same database when recording incidence of potential child abuse. Government agencies must communicate to be effective at dealing with situations of child abuse.

STATE REPRESENTATIVE (continued)			
<i>What are your priorities to move New Mexico to a more stable economy? (65 words)</i>	<i>Do you favor tapping the permanent funds, in a greater degree than is currently allowed, to fund immediate educational or economic needs? Please explain your answer. (65 words)</i>	<i>Racial and income inequalities have become important social and economic issues. What actions should the legislature take to address and resolve these issues? (65 words)</i>	<i>What are your major concerns regarding education in New Mexico and how can they be addressed? (65 words)</i>

State Representative District 22 – Bernalillo, Santa Fe, Sandoval

Jessica P. VELASQUEZ Democrat 	I'm a small business owner. My top priority is creating new opportunities to help us all get ahead. NM needs to encourage homegrown entrepreneurship and drive job creation: reform taxes, incentivize new business, and modernize infrastructure. I will focus on emerging economic sectors, such as aerospace and cybersecurity, energy production, advanced manufacturing, and digital media and film. Diversifying the economy will take time. Decisive action today will lead to a stronger economy tomorrow.	We must invest in the future of our children. I support a constitutional amendment that would allocate funds from the Land Grant Permanent Fund for education and economic recovery in the wake of COVID-19. However, we need strong oversight and accountability measures in place, with clear benchmarks to measure progress and success.	Eliminating structural racial and income inequality requires long-term commitment to fairness and justice at every level, and across every sector. State policy should focus on creating good jobs with livable wages, enforcing anti-discriminatory laws in the workplace and in financial systems, increasing access to affordable high quality healthcare, reforming bias within the criminal justice system, creating affordable housing, and ensuring our tax code is fair for families and small business.	I am a former public school teacher. New Mexico's students and teachers are among the most talented, capable and resilient in the nation. NM's public schools have been short-changed---and have suffered from inadequate funding. We need to focus on recruiting and retaining outstanding teachers, expanding school-based health and social services necessary for student success, investing in early childhood education, raising salaries for teachers, and expanding community school initiatives. people who can serve in the legislature are typically wealthy, retired, or are lucky to have flexible, understanding employers OR own their own businesses. NM would benefit from a change.
Stefani LORD Republican	NO RESPONSE RECEIVED			
<i>What are your priorities to move New Mexico to a more stable economy? (65 words)</i>	<i>Do you favor tapping the permanent funds, in a greater degree than is currently allowed, to fund immediate economic needs? Please explain your answer. (65 words)</i>	<i>New Mexico has been one of the most successful states in limiting the spread of Covid-19 and in ramping up hospital care and testing. What specifically, would you do to support and improve current policies? (65 words)</i>	<i>Nationally recognized surveys consistently rank New Mexico last as a good place to be a kid. How would you address this problem? (65 words)</i>	

State Representative District 23 – Bernalillo, Sandoval

Damon B. ELY Democrat 	As we continue to see the volatility of the oil and gas market, it is essential that New Mexico moves to a more diverse economy. The Energy Transition Act of 2019 was a good start, but we need to continue to invest in alternative energy, help our small businesses out of this crisis and provide a stable foundation so that everyone has access to quality internet. The latter will encourage both innovation and remote working.	Yes. New Mexico has two reserve funds that we can use to make sure that essential programs such as public education and early childhood education are funded. I sponsored a bill, which passed, to provide \$400 million in loans to small businesses to get them past this pandemic. That program appears to be working.	think our Governor has done an excellent job in handling the pandemic. We now need to focus on helping our community - education and business being the two most in need - which are now in crisis through no fault of anyone except our failed national administration. I would direct resources and streamline any process we need to help everyone get back on their feet.	It is essential that we improve services to young people in our State. First, we need to further invest in Early Childhood Education programs which give kids the resources they need to fully function in and out of the classroom as they grow older. I also support increased broadband and I am open to increasing the Working families tax breaks in order to give families better options.
Ellis C. MCMATH Republican 	Attracting and maintaining small business will be the backbone of our economy. Unfortunately, many have permanently shut down due to the lock down. We need to research and perhaps incorporate some of the laws, regulations and tax codes in Texas and Arizona as they foster a more business-friendly atmosphere. It is my opinion that we should not increase taxes or burdens on small business during this time of recovery.	The permanent fund was established in 1912 the same year we became a state. It's main purpose was to provide long term funding for schools from oil and gas revenues. The permanent fund was not designed as a volatile fund and should remain permanent, used only as the founders intended.	I am delighted that our hospital covid rates are low. However, we must balance our efforts in fighting the virus with the freedoms we cherish. New Mexico citizens should be vigilant in keeping our hospitalizations down yet allowed to choose whether they want to attend a place of worship, patronize a business or dine at a restaurant.	Educational freedom equals wiser, happier kids. Education money should follow our children, not institutions. Vouchers should be issued to parents allowing them to choose public, charter, private or home-school options. As a kid I grew up near the banks of the Rio Grande and camped in our mountains. There are still great things about being a kid in New Mexico.

“Democracy cannot be forced upon a society, neither is it a gift that can be held forever. It has to be struggled hard for and defended everyday anew.”

– Heinz Galinski

STATE REPRESENTATIVE (continued)

What are your priorities to move New Mexico to a more stable economy? (65 words)

Do you favor tapping the permanent funds, in a greater degree than is currently allowed, to fund immediate economic needs? Please explain your answer. (65 words)

New Mexico has been one of the most successful states in limiting the spread of Covid-19 and in ramping up hospital care and testing. What specifically, would you do to support and improve current policies? (65 words)

Nationally recognized surveys consistently rank New Mexico last as a good place to be a kid. How would you address this problem? (65 words)

State Representative District 24 – Bernalillo
Elizabeth L. THOMSON
Democrat


As we all know, oil and gas are extremely volatile. I believe we should move to industries that are more steady and reliable, such as renewable energy including manufacturing of the “hardware” involved. NM has an ample supply of sun and wind. We must grow our high tech industry, taking full advantage of our excellent labs and higher education institutions. Tourism is always going to be an important industry for NM, so we should continue to invest in it. A strong education system is a must.

In general I do, but each purpose and each fund must be carefully evaluated to be sure it is a fiscally wise move. These are indeed extraordinary times and we must look at all options to minimize damage to New Mexicans.

I believe the Governor is doing a good job of following science and protecting the lives and health of the state's people. I support what has been done and I would essentially continue to follow the plans. It is very frustrating to see New Mexicans, including some governmental entities flaunt their disregard for the very lives of some of their neighbors. Not sure how it could happen, but increased enforcement of mask mandate could help. I prefer to take the cautious route.

The most important thing we could do is to use a small percentage of the Land Grant Permanent Fund earnings to fund high quality universal early childhood education, from birth through Kindergarten. Educating expectant parents in child development and parenting classes can prepare them to be their baby's first and best teachers. Continue with the education moon shot. Improve our behavioral health system, to be able to help people with mental illness, alcoholism, and substance use disorders.

Amy L. SMITH
Republican

NO RESPONSE RECEIVED

State Representative District 25 – Bernalillo
Christine TRUJILLO
Democrat

NO RESPONSE RECEIVED

Jocelynn Renee PADEN
Libertarian

NO RESPONSE RECEIVED

Stephen VERCHINSKI
Green


Reduce gov.waste. Benchmark laws with objectives, clear missions. Pass extractive resources policy. Address equity, state programs and fees. Transition state to organic agriculture, food, beverage production. Conservation for state building, school construction, support new building materials and tech., passive solar heating-cooling program. Support film industry, tourism, state trail. Moratorium new state road construction, projects like ART. Eliminate social security tax. Protect pensions

No, studies compared our permanent funds with other states. We are already taking money today needed for future generations. Our drilling and fracking, for oil especially, is coming to an end with some projecting it to happen within less than a few decades. In fact, the nation uses more oil than is extracted annually yet instead of values going up they have gone down reducing income to resource extractive states like New Mexico. Permanent funds revenue needs to be reevaluated in this light.

Warned since 2014. We knew for influenza patients, w diabetes, lung & heart disease, all get respiratory distress. Hyperbaric oxygen therapy HBOT, was used since Spanish flu. Instead we mechanically ventilated. 700 dead, more health damaged, an economy collapse, is not success. Researched data, clinical trials, spoke w doctors to confirming HBOT saves lives, reduces injuries. I reported asked gov't. for HBOT, technicians, for all the hospitals and rural clinics with the high comorbidity factors.

Children need be loved, be safe, fed, and in environment to learn and grow. We are all responsible in how we support family. Children, with intact families, can get their needs met. Need decent jobs, wages indexed to inflation, so even one single parent can provide support for an entire family. Children's health needs coverage where more than 1 in 10 not covered by insurance. Address domestic violence and divorce court litigation abuse. State must deal with pedophilia with a task force.

Sarah RICH-JACKSON
Republican


Look to CO, TX, and AZ for business-friendly tax codes/practices. Create urban infrastructure to attract workers and families. Support multi-use complexes to bring in small business and provide support for business startups, including free bookkeeping and marketing classes at CNM to support entrepreneurs. More business = more growth. Take immediate steps to create a top-notch education system, favorable tax structure for families, business, and retirees, and overhaul our criminal justice system.

No, we have a true need for the Permanent Fund, which provides base funding for K-12 and university education in NM. Longevity of the Fund is the key to providing consistent future funding without having to increase taxes on struggling families. If we set the precedent that it can be used for immediate needs outside its designated use, we will run out of money and have no way to support our future education.

NM is a very rural state, with limited density in comparison to other states. While it is imperative to be proactive and responsible, we must consider the weight of the shutdown on people's emotional and financial health. I support opening the public outdoor spaces, especially pools and campgrounds, with monitored levels of use. The more we keep people from being able to be use public spaces and find some normalcy, the less likely they are to follow the rules for an extended period.

NM needs more intervention for children that are experiencing abuse and severe poverty. We need to provide a better school experience for children and include free camps to utilize our beautiful outdoor spaces. We need to bring in business to NM so parents can have better jobs that are more stable. Financial stability is a game changer for families and allows parents the mental space to get more involved with their children, volunteer at schools, and take time to just live.

“I would rather belong to a poor nation that was free than to a rich nation that had ceased to be in love with liberty.”

– Woodrow Wilson

STATE REPRESENTATIVE (continued)

What are your priorities to move New Mexico to a more stable economy? (65 words)

Do you favor tapping the permanent funds, in a greater degree than is currently allowed, to fund immediate economic needs? Please explain your answer. (65 words)

New Mexico has been one of the most successful states in limiting the spread of Covid-19 and in ramping up hospital care and testing. What specifically, would you do to support and improve current policies? (65 words)

Nationally recognized surveys consistently rank New Mexico last as a good place to be a kid. How would you address this problem? (65 words)

State Representative District 26 – Bernalillo

Georgene LOUIS
Democrat

UNOPPOSED

State Representative District 27 – Bernalillo

Marian MATTHEWS
Democrat



Public/private/nonprofit partnerships to implement achievable economic development projects, leveraging state resources as appropriate (e.g., job training, industrial revenue bonds, marketing); improving capital resources; developing and rebuilding technological, organizational, and structural infrastructure, including rural development hubs and expanded LEDA projects; major investment in public education, public safety, and health care to create a supportive environment for business and people.

Education is key to our future. I support allowing New Mexicans to vote on a constitutional amendment to increase the distribution of income from the land grant permanent fund for public education to improve outcomes and opportunities for pre-K, elementary, middle school and high school students; for the retention and education of teachers and other essential but understaffed professions; and to provide minimal-cost community college programs and affordable college and post-graduate education.

I would continue to rely on the best medical and scientific advice to guide our actions. I would continue to seek to personalize the protocols for those in nursing homes and in facilities serving disabled persons consistent with safety. I would consider geographical variations in some protocols if safe. I would expand the number of testing sites. More generally, I would prioritize expanding universal health care coverage in NM, improving rural health care resources, and adding more providers.

First, no more poor choices. Cuts made in the past decade were devastating to families, kids, and schools. Good choices: investing in pre-K, schools, better health care, behavioral health resources, home visits for at-risk families, affordable housing. A priority: return school-based health centers or school nurses to public schools. Their presence will pay for itself in reduced social problems. Help with childcare costs for low-income and in-school parents. Pay workers a living wage.

Robert GODSHALL
Republican



Eliminate the gross receipts tax because it is a business and job killing tax while establishing a broader and more equitable taxation system that encourages investment and business. Create an education system that rewards success and discourages failure, that allows our very good teachers to succeed at what they do so we can create an educated workforce that will entice more businesses to our state. Re-establish our mining and timber industries to help diversify our economy.

I do not favor raiding the permanent funds to provide government entities with additional revenue that is basically unaccountable. For the most part, these funds are created from sources of income that may eventually disappear., so they are meant to provide reliable funding for as long as possible. I would entertain the idea of returning this money to the taxpayer and require that government seek other revenue streams so that they are proving to the taxpayer that government spends wisely.

I do not agree that New Mexico has been one of the most successful states limiting the spread of COVID-19. It ranks 22nd best with 1,018 cases per 100,000, right above South Dakota, whose economy has been much more open. We have to take care of our economy as well as our citizens and we have to ensure that our employees have a safe place to work. I am committed to the principle that the citizens of a free state should be persuaded to do right and not compelled to do right.

Nothing works better for making a place great for children than the creation of wealth. When you see the good neighborhoods of our state, you see good homes, good schools, good businesses, good health care, and lower crime rates. Our state government needs to encourage this type of success and promote a wealth creation environment, not punish it. With our national labs, research and academic institutions, wealth creation is not hard but government needs to get on board.

Jason Morris BARKER
DTS (write-in)



New Mexico is one of a few states that face a double threat. We are a state with a high concentration of oil-related industries that are seeing a decline in economic activity and tax collections due to plunging oil prices on top of COVID-19-related effects and the recession. It's going to take fiscal responsibility, carefully cuts to newly expanded state government over the last two years, and to generate new revenues for the state without raising taxes on the citizens of the state.

I do not support the erosion of the land grant fund. This would require a vote of the people and approval from congress to expand the beneficiaries.

More widespread testing and tracing. In 2019, New Mexico was tied at 40th for being prepared for possible disasters, disease outbreaks, and other emergencies. This clearly should be a legislative priority. New Mexico would have a much easier time in handling the coronavirus crisis, any other future emergency for the state, and could promptly address the social injustices policies plaguing our society - if our state had a professional hybrid legislature and that change needs to happen in 2021.

Legalized adult use cannabis in New Mexico is inevitable. The proposed legalization bill should be restructured so 35% of the state revenues are dedicated to public education in the state. Specifically dedicating these funds to: Teacher pay raises, basic instructional materials and technology for classrooms; ensure teaching is tailored to the unique cultural and linguistic needs of our students, including English-language learners and indigenous communities, and after school learning.

State Representative District 28 – Bernalillo

Melanie Ann STANSBURY
Democrat



The pandemic has dramatically changed the landscape of our state. We must rebuild our economy while protecting the health and safety of our communities. Over the long term, our state must diversify its economy by leaning into its strengths in science and technology, ag and natural resources, the arts and outdoors, and creating opportunities for our young people to stay. This means investing in our businesses, education system, public safety, and rolling up our sleeves and getting to work!

New Mexico's permanent funds provide more than \$1 billion for state operations, schools and higher education institutions, and serve as a nest egg for future generations. But, in a time when our state is facing the most significant economic crisis in generations-a carefully crafted set proposals may be warranted to ensure our businesses and economy can weather the storm and we can address the basic food, water, housing, and educational needs of our communities during this crisis.

New Mexico has relied on sound science and data to drive decisions about how to keep New Mexicans safe during the pandemic. In so doing, New Mexico has succeeded in lowering its transmission rates and flattening the curve while other states have spiked. NM must continue to follow the science and rely on good data, continue to protect frontline workers and those who are suffering, and work to reopen and rebuild our economy and the businesses that are the backbone of our communities.

Having been raised here in New Mexico, I believe NM is the best place to be a kid. However, as a state that ranks 50th for child well-being we must address systemic issues and make sustained investments in our kids. This includes investing in early childhood education, addressing hunger and housing insecurity, improving our education system, and investing in the success of our families, communities, and economy--which are the foundation that enables our kids to thrive.

STATE REPRESENTATIVE (continued)

What are your priorities to move New Mexico to a more stable economy? (65 words)

Do you favor tapping the permanent funds, in a greater degree than is currently allowed, to fund immediate economic needs? Please explain your answer. (65 words)

New Mexico has been one of the most successful states in limiting the spread of Covid-19 and in ramping up hospital care and testing. What specifically, would you do to support and improve current policies? (65 words)

Nationally recognized surveys consistently rank New Mexico last as a good place to be a kid. How would you address this problem? (65 words)

State Representative District 28 – Bernalillo (continued)

Robert Jason VAILLANCOURT
Libertarian



Stabalizing the economy begins with creating a culture of innovation and independence. Local and State Governments must be the examples, not the exceptions. The idea that Government can pick winners and losers, let's say in the "Energy" sector of our economy, is not the solution, and Santa Fe has proven that to us taxpayers repeatedly. New Mexicans are entrepreneurs and independents, let's quit letting Santa Fe legislate barriers to New Mexicans being successful and staying in New Mexico.

I do not favor tapping the Permanent due to poor management decisions. Our State Government has raised the State's budget 21% over the last 3 years, always being warned that to do so would be perilous, and yet we should all pay again, for these these types of policies? At what point do we ask the question, "What if Government didn't do it?" Our campaign believes we can help manage better outcomes, with fewer dollars and less Government intrusion.

I think this question is framed in a way that doesn't allow people to ask rational questions about our State's response to COVID. This question automatically assumes that our was one of "the most successful", when South Dakota never locked down people's civil rights to freely travel, to be open for business, or to assemble., and the devastating effect it has had on our people. This is a conversation that needs to take place, and I look forward to having it.

Community has a role in a society that is not currently fulfilled, because we have allowed Government to step way outside of its proper role and try to solve problems it was never intended to. This is a cultural issue that cannot be solved by policies, it needs to be solved through more community involvement in our youth, developing a society of mutual benefit so everyone can flourish, not just a select few.

Thomas Ray STULL
Republican

NO RESPONSE RECEIVED

State Representative District 29 – Bernalillo

Joy I. GARRATT
Democrat



New Mexico is the transportation hub amid the five states with the fastest growing populations; Santa Teresa is at the center with railroads and highways reaching into all parts of the country. From January to June, in spite of COVID-19, exports went up 11%. The kinds of "meat and potatoes supply the suppliers" initiatives developed in Santa Teresa in concert with Mexico attract both domestic and international businesses. We need to expand that entrepreneurial reality in every economic theater.

I do not favor tapping the permanent funds to fund immediate economic needs. We need to thoroughly track state revenue and oil and gas performances as well as how our businesses come back online. The Small Business Recovery Act passed during the Special Session drew on severance funds of \$400 million, demonstrating one way to address economic needs. Tracking actual numbers through January, 2021 we will be in a better position to determine the budget shortfall and next steps for the economy.

I thank the religious, business, and restaurant organizations that developed innovative and safe health practices in accordance with the DOH guidelines. As schools re-open, we need to have rapid response teams in place for testing students and school staff to ensure that potential community spread does not create new hot spots. Starting in-person schooling after Labor Day provides time for schools to work out best health and safety protocols and to thoroughly prepare for all learning modalities.

Improving the lives of all members of a family will make New Mexico a better place for each and every kid. Good jobs with living wages mean parents do not have to work multiple jobs and can be home with their children to a greater extent. Community schools where families can more easily access health care, family education and counseling, and social services support our kids. Finally, I advocate for the return of high school "family studies" course that prepare students for future parenting.

Adelious de STITH
Republican



First, a bipartisan balanced budget is a must. The campaign promises do not outweigh common sense measures to curtail out of control spending. If we do not balance the budget, all other efforts will result in fruitless endeavors. Secondly, relieve the business community of needless restraints seemingly engineered to impede the flow of business. The government must get out of the way of private business and let them do what they do best: create revenue.

I support responsible spending, not overspending, and meticulously planning for emergencies. A well-developed business continuity and succession plan avoids the type of headaches we are enduring under the China virus. The leaders of this State have a responsibility to adhere to the goal and objectives of the fund. Having to tap into the fund now with this emergency shows our budget is not thoughtfully planned or executed. I do not support raiding the permanent fund..

I will not encroach upon measures that really work to mitigate the spread of this decease and will prepare us for the next emergency. I strongly believe we need to remove the political aspect of this situation. I would allow businesses to resume their functions and depend upon all of us working together for a healthy NM. Allowing people to be part of the team keeps the team productive and wanting to do its part.

Every effort we work to achieve must be with our future in mind not our politics. Leadership must realize we are failing our children. I suggest a contract with NM showing the people leadership is about the business of a prosperous NM, a healthy NM, and preserving NM for our future leaders: our children. I will ensure all we do passes the litmus test of protecting, educating, and allowing our children to have fun.

State Representative District 30 – Bernalillo

Natalie R. FIGUEROA
Democrat



A more stable economy would be diversified across multiple industries and would build on NM's resources of sun and wind and space. To encourage this, I will prioritize the necessary infrastructure: not just roads and bridges, but also reliable high speed broadband to reach all corners of the state. An educated workforce is also a priority for economic stability, so building connections between education, workforce training and industry is essential.

The purpose of the permanent funds is to provide a stable source of revenue in times of economic downturn. New Mexico has a number of such funds with billions of dollars in assets that belong to the people of New Mexico in perpetuity. If we are careful to protect the long term growth of the funds, we certainly could increase distributions. How do we do that? By setting safety triggers to ensure that the funds cannot drop below specific amounts, as well as time limits for increased distribution.

We absolutely need to continue policies of transparency, communication, and interdepartmental cooperation. We also need to streamline and connect policy from the municipal to county to state levels to ensure that data is consistent and timely, that contact tracing is swift and efficient, and essential workers of all types are protected. As a teacher, I would call for sufficient support and funding to get students safely back to school.



I have spent 30 years teaching children, and I've observed what we all know: children must be safe, fed, healthy, and learning. That means addressing several factors simultaneously--food insecurity, inaccessible/unaffordable health care, and inequitable education. By investing in early childhood care and education, by connecting whole family services across departments--Dept of Health, Public Education and CYFD--we ensure that all New Mexican children have the opportunity for a brighter future.

STATE REPRESENTATIVE (continued)				
	<i>What are your priorities to move New Mexico to a more stable economy? (65 words)</i>	<i>Do you favor tapping the permanent funds, in a greater degree than is currently allowed, to fund immediate economic needs? Please explain your answer. (65 words)</i>	<i>New Mexico has been one of the most successful states in limiting the spread of Covid-19 and in ramping up hospital care and testing. What specifically, would you do to support and improve current policies? (65 words)</i>	<i>Nationally recognized surveys consistently rank New Mexico last as a good place to be a kid. How would you address this problem? (65 words)</i>
State Representative District 30 – Bernalillo (continued)				
Randall K. SOBIEN Libertarian	Mostly, the government needs to get out of the way and let businesses do what they are best at.	No. If there's one thing the government is good at, it's spending itself into debt that it cannot dig itself out of in our lifetimes, and the emergencies have been created by the policies of the same government wanting more money. I have a couple certificates of deposit. I could have spent the money I invested in them immediately, but I chose to make it grow. When they mature, I can pretend it's X-mas, or I can let them keep growing and compounding interest. Basically the same holds true here.	According to the academic research book, Corporate Flight: The Causes and Consequences of Economic Dislocation, for every 1% increase in unemployment, we can expect around 37,000 deaths. That was based on 1981 population numbers. That 37k figure would increase in proportion to the population. NM's handling is not a success story; it is likely to become instead a cautionary tale in regards to focusing on a singular issue. The government's role should be one of advising, not of forcing closures.	It must be addressed that the goal is not to "pass the test" (national surveys), but to have happy, healthy, successful kids. That said, I agree with the conclusion, but I wouldn't focus much on the metrics. When I think of a bad place to be a kid, what comes to mind is child abuse/crime, health, and education. NM's approach to child abuse/crime is pretty lazy. Parents should take an active role in their children's education, politics need to stay out. Also, work to ensure access to healthcare.
John L. JONES Republican	 Keep what we have (federal jobs/land, oil/gas, agriculture, and tourism), make NM attractive for investment from multiple clean sources (think tanks, manufacturing, etc) from inside and outside of NM. We NEED more connectivity and a reliable, steady source of power. Our strong regulatory environment should be modified to be less of a make work scheme and eliminate duplication of oversight that adds no merit to the end state of good, clean, projects and businesses.	I favor using the severance tax permanent fund for that objective, using its disbursement processes (legislative obligation) and some of the investment policy. The other three permanent funds, each, have a unique focus and we should generally leave them alone. The Educational Permanent Fund (Land Grant) is the largest fund, and a component of the investment policy of that fund could focus on attractive economic recovery in the state.	The first duty of government is to protect and defend - NM got off to a good start, considering the unknowns of COVID-19. Since this remains a long term issue, I want to see the Legislature more actively involved in determining the direction New Mexico takes and providing the budget to do so; that also provides greater transparency into the creation of those policies. I'd focus on consistent application of science based data to create guidelines on social movement and economic recovery.	This is a bell weather of more broadly spread issues facing the State - generational poverty, a narrow economic base, lack of family cohesiveness, poor educational outcomes, pervasive violent crime ... to name a few. We start with ensuring safety of the public to live and work, employ a strategy to increase economic opportunity and outcomes, coupled with attacking the source of poor educational results, which includes supporting stronger family structures and combating drug addictions.
State Representative District 31 – Bernalillo				
Julie Ford BRENNING Democrat	 As a business owner, I understand the importance of rebuilding our economy. I will fight for tax breaks, low-interest loans and stimulus packages that go directly to businesses in need. New Mexican's must continue to diversify the state's economy. Continued dependence on oil has proven fatal to the state. I strongly support economic diversification by endorsing new, small, and local businesses; growing tech firms; hemp growth, production, and sale; film industry expansion; and renewable energy.	I would use the funds to provide investments for small and local businesses, particularly those affected most by COVID-19; create thousands of jobs and educate our children by supporting the Pre-K program; and support a just transition fund that invests in New Mexico's renewable energy industry.	It is essential that our healthcare workers and physicians have the proper PPE, funding, and support they need to take care of critical patients. We must also continue to ramp up testing and contact tracing. Our hospitals are filling up quickly with people from out of state and this will require extra funding and resources. It is also essential that healthcare in NM be accessible, high quality and affordable for every single New Mexican.	I have chosen to raise my three children in New Mexico as I believe there is much good and potential here. But there is also work to be done. As a researcher, my policies will get to the roots of the problems: supporting, empowering and sustaining families. This includes eradicating domestic violence, empowering parents in children's academic success, providing behavioral health services for addiction and mental health and lifting families out of poverty. Families must be strengthened.
Steven Ray PENHALL Libertarian	 This is the biggest issue facing NM for the coming decade - how to maintain essential services without raising taxes or fees. We must define what essential services and departments are (and aren't). We are clearly spending lots of money on ineffective programs or we wouldn't be at or near the bottom of the list for crime, education, child welfare, etc. These choices will be difficult but one of the biggest challenges to leadership effectiveness is the courage to make those decisions and act.	I do not advocate the use of permanent funds for annual expenses, but we are in the midst of a 100-year crisis that has the potential to devastate our economy. We should take the short-term steps necessary to mitigate the critical damage to families and businesses. How that is accomplished is an open question depending on the legislatures desire to make significant changes to programs and the budget.	Our Governor deserves a solid grade for her efforts to contain the virus. New Mexico's handling of the economic, civic and family issues deserves a failing grade. Our politicians use of the crisis to promote personal and political agendas cannot be allowed to continue. We must bring the legislature, education, public entities, and business to the table when critical decisions are made, and all must have a voice. All state laws, policies and rules must be followed	I raised my kids in the Four Corners and they turned out wonderfully. This can be a great place for kids if we make the effort. Again, planning and budgeting for effective educational and recreational programs in a nonpartisan way is key.
William R. REHM Republican	 Oil and gas revenues with their corporate income tax is about half of our budget revenue. NM is the #2 producer of oil in the US. They will for the foreseeable future be a large contributor and we must support this industry. We must reform our tax code and become a more business friendly state. Violent crimes are costly to our economy-on the victims who survive-earning, physical & emotional tolls, significant cost to taxpayers. Our K12 education system must be improved to attract business.	NO! The revenue comes from royalties on our State lands. Oil and gas contribute 90% of the yearly deposits and one day will go away. Public Schools receive 85% of the yearly distribution. K12 accounts for about 45% of our State budget. . If the distribution is increased by 1/2 percent in ten years there will be \$1.5 billion less. NM does not have replenishment rules for the permanent fund so the worry is that if used, these funds will not be replenished, which will deplete the corpus of the fund.	Allow small businesses to open with the same restrictions as big box stores. As entrepreneurs, they are consistently creative by changing their business model in order to adapt to the times. If given trust, they will find ways for safe business operation. Small businesses are the backbone of our economy and should be respected in the same manner as the large conglomerates. Daily business are permanently closing. These closed business adversely affect NM's economy-tax collected and employment.	Crime-stop court catch and release. Make a safer State by holding felons; swift prison sentence, or court diversion. Last session I passed bills increasing penalties for criminal use of firearms-felon in possession of a firearm and using a firearm in the commission of a crime. Exposure to violent crime harms a child's emotional, psychological and physical development and they are more likely to have difficulty in school, abuse drugs or alcohol, suffer depression, and engage in criminal behavior



STATE REPRESENTATIVE (continued)

<i>What are your priorities to move New Mexico to a more stable economy? (65 words)</i>	<i>Do you favor tapping the permanent funds, in a greater degree than is currently allowed, to fund immediate educational or economic needs? Please explain your answer. (65 words)</i>	<i>Racial and income inequalities have become important social and economic issues. What actions should the legislature take to address and resolve these issues? (65 words)</i>	<i>What are your major concerns regarding education in New Mexico and how can they be addressed? (65 words)</i>
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State Representative District 43 – Sandoval, Los Alamos, Rio Arriba, Santa Fe

<div><div><div>Christine CHANDLER</div><div>Democrat</div></div><div></div></div>	<p>Improve our public education system and vocational training programs to create a workforce and labor pool to support a sustainable commercial sector. Maintain and create adequate infrastructure , including strong internet capabilities, necessary to attract businesses. Diversify the economy, for example, by supporting clean energy initiatives, legalizing adult use cannabis under strict controls, developing a strategy to draw a manufacturing into our economy.</p>	<p>Revenue volatility undermines reliable, consistent funding sources for educational initiatives. A small percentage of the interest on the Land Grant Permanent Fund would allow sustained support for education and early childhood programs. The Economic Recovery Act tapped into the Severance Tax Permanent Fund to invest in New Mexico businesses impacted by the pandemic. Efforts such as these will reap long term benefits for the State.</p>	<p>This challenge must be approached on many different fronts:minority and rural populations must receive educational opportunities equal to their peers in more affluent areas, including narrowing the technology gap;new criminal justice strategies that include police reforms;limited reliance on incarceration,and expanded diversion and alternative sentencing programs;social welfare, behavioral health and drug treatment initiatives;and support for families through paid family leave and childcare.</p>	<p>For a variety of social and economic reasons, too many New Mexico children begin their educational experience without the foundation necessary for them to succeed.To support these children, the State must continue to advance Pre-K and early childhood programs that have been shown to promote not only student success in school but also life outcomes.</p>
<div><div><div>David E. HAMPTON</div><div>Republican</div></div><div></div></div>	<p>We need to make New Mexico more attractive to business. My priorities involve reforming our tax code, improving education, and reducing crime. I support replacing gross receipts tax, which unfairly burdens small businesses, with a sales tax that applies to finished goods only. I support reducing government spending to enable lower taxation and remove our reliance on severance taxes from fossil fuel extraction. I support amending catch and release to exclude violent offenders.</p>	<p>No. Tapping them now to support overspending by government will make the income they produce unavailable to future generations, damaging education and other programs in the future, and requiring higher taxes to make up for the shortages. I do support creative use of the permanent funds which will not deplete them, like making portions of them available for low interest loans to small businesses.</p>	<p>The same actions we need to take to achieve a more stable economy, such as tax reform, improved education, and reduced crime, will help address and resolve racial and income inequalities. We need to enforce current legislation which supports equal opportunity and ensure that all New Mexicans have equal access to the opportunities that a stable and prosperous economy would provide.</p>	<p>Since top-heavy government schools have failed to meet the requirement of providing sufficient education to all students, the Legislature should make educational choice available to parents, and the money allocated to education from the State Budget should follow the student. This would especially help rectify education inequalities like those we see in the Navajo Nation and in lower income communities.</p>
<p><i>What are your priorities to move New Mexico to a more stable economy? (65 words)</i></p>	<p><i>Do you favor tapping the permanent funds, in a greater degree than is currently allowed, to fund immediate economic needs? Please explain your answer. (65 words)</i></p>	<p><i>New Mexico has been one of the most successful states in limiting the spread of Covid-19 and in ramping up hospital care and testing. What specifically, would you do to support and improve current policies? (65 words)</i></p>	<p><i>Nationally recognized surveys consistently rank New Mexico last as a good place to be a kid. How would you address this problem? (65 words)</i></p>	

State Representative District 44 – Sandoval

Gary J. TRIPP Democrat		My first priority would be to review the LFC and the House Appropriations Committee consideration to help diversify New Mexico's economy. I believe we can diversify and grow our economy by eliminating the Double Tax on Social Security, approve the sale of recreational marijuana, truly pioneer solar and wind energy, and work with counties on single sales taxes vs. GRT when recruiting businesses to our state. In turn, these various installations will lessen our dependence on oil and gas money.	I approve tapping into the permanent funds to a certain degree to focus on wholly educating our future: early childhood education, their social, emotional, and physical well being for quality and safe education, and to preserve and recruit high quality educators by offering competitive compensation packages.	I believe we need national legislation, so policy can define the roles of the federal and state governments during pandemics. If there is a conflict between the federal and state government then the Judicial Branch should reside over the disagreement if it goes to court. I think we need to stay persistent wearing masks in public, continue ample testing, and creatively support business.	First, I want to attract 1,000 highly qualified teachers to our schools. Second, I believe we need to adopt a K-12 Financial Literacy curriculum and use it to educate both children and families. Families and children in poverty need to understand their role as a worker, consumer, and actor in the economy. Third, we need to improve early childhood education accessibility and make pre-k available to all New Mexico children. Last, we need to review CYFD systems and their strategic plan.
Jeremy B. MYERS Libertarian		NO RESPONSE RECEIVED			
Jane E. POWDRELL-CULBERT Republican		Stable economies are based on business growth and spending; not government welfare. I will continue to support and introduce legislation to enhance businesses of all sizes, and vote against legislation that harm existing businesses and tax to death our small businesses throughout the state. Tax reform will go a long way to stabilize the NM economy. I will also continue to work, support, and introduce legislation to improve NM infrastructure as in the past.	No. The permanent fund was tapped under the Richardson's administration which equal to approximately 1 BILLION DOLLARS. We need to re-asses how our small businesses are taxed under the current economic environment. A total tax forgiveness for certain size businesses is in order. Remember, small businesses are the backbone of this state that include veteran, ranching and farming. This would help a great deal with the recovery of our economy and keep our small business community in business.	Continue to support both the Los Alamos and Sandia Labs in their research efforts as well as support medical awareness legislation that will better educate NM citizens regarding COVID, and support a well thought out plan on how it is enacted.	A child's life is shaped by the 'PARENTS', the environment and educational system. NM has spent billions of dollars to improve education, I believe it is time to examine parents' lack of caring on education. In NM, Rio Rancho is constantly ranked as one the best places to raise a child. The 'PARENTS', education system, and law enforcement all respect one another and work together to make it a safe place for their children. Utilize Rio Rancho's education system as a model for the state.

STATE REPRESENTATIVE (continued)				
State Representative District 49 – Catron, Socorro, Valencia				
<div><div><div>Gail ARMSTRONG</div><div>Republican</div></div><div>UNOPPOSED</div></div>				
	What are your priorities to move New Mexico to a more stable economy? (65 words)	Do you favor tapping the permanent funds, in a greater degree than is currently allowed, to fund immediate educational or economic needs? Please explain your answer. (65 words)	Racial and income inequalities have become important social and economic issues. What actions should the legislature take to address and resolve these issues? (65 words)	What are your major concerns regarding education in New Mexico and how can they be addressed? (65 words)
State Representative District 50 – Valencia, Torrance, Santa Fe, Bernalillo				
<div><div><div>Matthew MCQUEEN</div><div>Democrat</div></div><div></div></div> <div>The need to diversify our economy away from dependence on the oil and gas industry is critical. We have made significant strides in some industries that will recover when the pandemic subsides. New Mexico is a leader in film and television production. We have tremendous tourism resources, including in outdoor recreation. As we work to improve our healthcare system we will also attract more retirees to the state. Finally, we have incredible, largely untapped potential in tech businesses.</div>				
<div><div><div>Jerry D. GAGE</div><div>Libertarian</div></div><div>NO RESPONSE RECEIVED</div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div>				
<div><div><div>Christina L. ESTRADA</div><div>Republican</div></div><div>NO RESPONSE RECEIVED</div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div>				
	What are your priorities to move New Mexico to a more stable economy? (65 words)	Do you favor tapping the permanent funds, in a greater degree than is currently allowed, to fund immediate economic needs? Please explain your answer. (65 words)	New Mexico has been one of the most successful states in limiting the spread of Covid-19 and in ramping up hospital care and testing. What specifically, would you do to support and improve current policies? (65 words)	Nationally recognized surveys consistently rank New Mexico last as a good place to be a kid. How would you address this problem? (65 words)
State Representative District 57 – Sandoval				
<div><div><div>Billie Ann HELEAN</div><div>Democrat</div></div><div></div></div> <div>We MUST diversify our economy so that we are less reliant upon oil and gas. The fluctuations in revenues from oil and gas prevent us from stabilizing. I will work to help NM to diversify into renewable energy sources that we can sell to neighboring states, as well as other revenue sources to help balance the budget long-term.</div>				
<div><div><div></div><div></div></div><div>Yes, especially because of the economic situation in which we find ourselves. The COVID-19 pandemic has created a situation that is untenable. Thankfully, our predecessors established a way for us to see our way clear through this emergency. It is critical that we support New Mexicans by responsibly using these funds to shore up our state until we are able to stabilize the economy post-pandemic.</div></div> <div><div><div></div><div></div></div><div>I will support the work already done, because it's good work. We are very fortunate to have government that is working diligently to ensure that we make it through this pandemic with our health and well-being intact. I would like to help develop policy that would make New Mexican's livelihoods more sustainable during any future, similar emergencies. I would also like to work very deliberately on resources that have been in short supply, such as food, financial, and childcare assistance.</div></div> <div><div><div></div><div></div></div><div>As a teacher I see the struggles families go through every day. It is critical that we address child well-being on many fronts. First and foremost, we must improve our economy so that working families have access to good, high-paying jobs that will help them support their children. Second, we must provide mental health and family care resources, so that families have everything they need to provide a loving and safe environment for children. And, finally, we must continue to improve education.</div></div>				
<div><div><div></div><div></div></div><div><p>“Let us not seek the Republican answer or the Democratic answer, but the right answer. Let us not seek to fix the blame for the past. Let us accept our own responsibility for the future.”</p><p>– John F. Kennedy</p></div></div>				

STATE REPRESENTATIVE (continued)

What are your priorities to move New Mexico to a more stable economy? (65 words)

Do you favor tapping the permanent funds, in a greater degree than is currently allowed, to fund immediate economic needs? Please explain your answer. (65 words)

New Mexico has been one of the most successful states in limiting the spread of Covid-19 and in ramping up hospital care and testing. What specifically, would you do to support and improve current policies? (65 words)

Nationally recognized surveys consistently rank New Mexico last as a good place to be a kid. How would you address this problem? (65 words)

State Representative District 57 – Sandoval (continued)

Jason Carl HARPER

Republican



Currently, our economy's three largest economic sectors are government (a whopping 25 percent!), healthcare, and oil and gas. We need to do better. Namely, we need to diversify. By reforming our tax code, we can recruit other types of businesses to our state. I have been spearheading real reform, proposing changes to our gross receipts tax. Not only will this level the playing field for small business to compete fairly with the big companies, but it will also lower taxes for all New Mexicans!

We've heard this song before. Former Governor Bill Richardson raided the Permanent Fund for more education dollars for 10 years, and failed to move the needle on student achievement. Now the funds pay out much less than they could have, had they been left whole. They are called "permanent" funds for a reason! These funds now contribute about \$1 Billion a year towards education AND they save each NM family about \$1000 in yearly taxes. Let's not kill the goose that lays the golden eggs.

I support wearing masks and practicing physical distancing to prevent the overloading of our hospitals. But with the current restrictions, we must ask ourselves if the "cure" is worse than the disease. Is it fair that big box stores are open, while mom and pop stores are shut down? Is it fair that government workers still get paid, while the poor can't even earn a living? Elected leaders must lead by example, and when the Governor sent out her people to buy jewelry, it set a very poor one.

My hometown of Rio Rancho is the exception to that rule. We're routinely rated one of the best places in the US to raise a family. That's why my wife and I decided to raise our family here. The rest of NM can learn from the great things Rio Rancho does, including our high performing schools (even though we receive nearly the lowest funding per student). And no community has greater respect for our Police Officers! We'll keep building on our successes, while improving where we need to.

State Representative District 60 – Sandoval

Joshua Nathaniel HERNANDEZ

UNOPPOSED

Republican

State Representative District 65 – Sandoval, Rio Arriba, San Juan

Derrick J. LENTE

Democrat



Reliance on oil & gas has created our current financial strains. Time has come to emphasize diversification of New Mexico's revenues. This includes welcoming and enhancing new industries like clean energy, expansion of agriculture opportunities, aerospace, tourism, advanced manufacturing, film production with expansion of our administrative and federal government presence.

I have supported and will continue to support tapping the Land Grant Permanent Fund to assist with educational needs as a long term strategy for the improvement of our children's preparation to become college and career ready. I am not so certain if I would support using permanent funds to address immediate economic needs.

Our Governor and administration have established policies and procedures that have, without a doubt, saved thousands of lives in New Mexico. I will continue to support the executive and her team of professionals in their battle against Covid-19.

As a legislator I have pushed educational reforms to ensure our children's ability to acquire a quality education. My numerous pieces of legislation to address the findings in the Yazzie/Martinez v. New Mexico lawsuit will continue to push our state to make the necessary investments to ensure our children are prioritized and protected.

Phillip D. SALAZAR

Republican



Create a long term plan for financial stability. Look at our assets currently and see what we can do to improve. Develop a budget that entails assistance for Small Businesses and Mom and Pop Shops. Create more jobs for our people.

If I was elected today, I would favor tapping into the permanent fund to assist all New Mexicans with the pandemic we are facing, whether it'd be financial assistance for small businesses or for family assistance.

Ensure our plan, policies, and procedures are frequently looked at and changed to accommodate whatever it is we are facing. The Covid-19 pandemic opened a lot of eyes because no one had or has any idea on how to handle it. I would recommend educating, training, and exercises.

Show the nation that our Great State of NM is a good place to be a kid. New Mexico is unique with all aspects of living. We have the foot of the Rocky Mountains, beautiful lakes and hunting grounds, unique grounds, parks and forests, and beautiful desert land. All within 6 hours or less from border to border. Let's get NM on the map for good things.

State Representative District 68 – Bernalillo

Karen C. BASH

Democrat



My first priority is to move New Mexico to greater use of renewable energy and the manufacturing to support solar, wind, and thermal. At the same time we need to continue our oil and gas revenues in an "all of the above" approach. The state should seek to encourage investment by high tech companies.

I do favor using funds from our land grant permanent fund to fund early childhood programs and educational spending in the state. This would require a ballot initiative to amend the state constitution. However it would free up money now used by the general fund for these expenditures and would allow the state to invest more in small business relief and ongoing state programs.

I continue to support Governor Michelle Lujan Grisham's Covid-19 mandates and would like to see the economy open as soon as it is safe to do so. I would like to streamline applications for loans to small businesses as much as possible to make sure they stay afloat, while still requiring the use of masks and all safety precautions

I am in favor of continuing to expand home visitation, parent education and early childhood programs for all children in New Mexico. We need to seriously address our widespread food insecurity and housing emergency. We cannot address child well-being without addressing poverty in our state, especially in rural and tribal areas.

STATE REPRESENTATIVE (continued)			
<i>What are your priorities to move New Mexico to a more stable economy? (65 words)</i>	<i>Do you favor tapping the permanent funds, in a greater degree than is currently allowed, to fund immediate economic needs? Please explain your answer. (65 words)</i>	<i>New Mexico has been one of the most successful states in limiting the spread of Covid-19 and in ramping up hospital care and testing. What specifically, would you do to support and improve current policies? (65 words)</i>	<i>Nationally recognized surveys consistently rank New Mexico last as a good place to be a kid. How would you address this problem? (65 words)</i>

State Representative District 68 – Bernalillo (continued)			
Giovanni COPPOLA Republican	NO RESPONSE RECEIVED		

State Representative District 69 – Bernalillo, Cibola, McKinley, Valencia, Socorro, San Juan			
Harry GARCIA Democrat	We need to invest more in our small business. We need to support industries that are growing like solar, wind, and agriculture while also protecting our fossil fuels. We also need more workforce training programs to help attract and speed the growth of new industries.	Yes, but just on the interest. We should never touch the principal and we need to have strict oversight on how this money is spent. These funds should go to urgent priorities like schools and early childhood education where it can be used as an investment in the future of our state.	The governor has done a great job. I would encourage everyone to support the health guidelines and tell people to encourage others to do the same. We all have a role to play in protecting our neighbors and containing the virus so that we can begin to reopen. I will continue to support initiatives to protect small businesses until we are out of this crisis.
Roy RYAN Republican	NO RESPONSE RECEIVED		

<i>What are your priorities to move New Mexico to a more stable economy? (65 words)</i>	<i>Do you favor tapping the permanent funds, in a greater degree than is currently allowed, to fund immediate educational or economic needs? Please explain your answer. (65 words)</i>	<i>Racial and income inequalities have become important social and economic issues. What actions should the legislature take to address and resolve these issues? (65 words)</i>	<i>What are your major concerns regarding education in New Mexico and how can they be addressed? (65 words)</i>
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State Representative District 70 – Torrance, San Miguel, Santa Fe			
Ambrose M. CASTELLANO Democrat	NO RESPONSE RECEIVED		
Nathan M. DIAL Republican	NO RESPONSE RECEIVED		

“Always vote for principle, though you may vote alone, and you may cherish the sweetest reflection that your vote is never lost.”
– John Quincy Adams

PUBLIC REGULATION COMMISSIONER

Four-year term. Member of five-person commission that regulates the utilities, telecommunications, and motor carrier industries. Also oversees pipeline and fire safety. Must be a citizen of the United States and reside in the district he/she represents. Must also certify that he/she has ten years of specified professional experience or combined professional experience and education in an area regulated by the commission. Elected by district. Districts 1 and 3 are up for election this year. District 1 encompasses parts of Bernalillo and Sandoval counties. District 3 includes a part of Sandoval county as well as counties in North Central New Mexico. Only voters eligible to vote in the respective districts may vote for a candidate in that district. Salary: \$90,000.

<i>What are your qualifications for this position? (65 words)</i>	<i>Do you favor an appointment process rather than election of PRC members? Please explain your answer. (65 words)</i>	<i>When evaluating requests for utility rate increases, what factors should be considered to ensure fairness to both the rate payers and the companies involved? (65 words)</i>	<i>What role, if any, does the PRC have in addressing climate change? (65 words)</i>
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District 1

Cynthia B. HALL
Democrat



3.5 yrs, PRC Commissioner; Former PRC associate general counsel; Public Service Commission, staff attorney; Office of Superintendent of Insurance, hearing examiner, fraud prosecutor and associate general counsel; Energy & Minerals Department, attorney; Sandia National Labs and the U.S. Navy environmental and land use attorney; tribal, real estate, corporate private practice; federal judicial clerk. 2 yrs, Bernalillo Planning Commissioner. 2 yrs, research supervisor, Ralston Purina Co. J.D. M.S.

Yes, I observed a drastic change for the worse in Commissioner performance from when I worked at the PSC in 1985-86, with appointeds, and at the PRC in 2008, with electeds. For its first 58 years of appointeds, the PSC lacked scandal; in the past 20 years of electeds, Commissioner crimes, ethical violations and overturned decisions have skyrocketed. The proposed Amendment's enabling law's committee vetting process should help the Governor to select skilled, ethical, experienced public servants.

Rates must be "just and reasonable" and should generate enough revenues to cover prudently incurred capital investments and a reasonable return (profit) thereon. The PRC should disallow imprudent cost/profit recovery. Other factors are cost apportionment across rate classes, avoiding rate discrimination, economic efficiency, resource conservation, rate and revenue stability, and achieving a capital structure for utilities that results in lowest rates and maintains utilities' financial health.

It has a pivotal role, as the regulator of the 2nd largest GHG emissions sector - fossil fuel-based energy production. It should vigorously enforce the ETA mandates reaching 100% clean energy by 2045 by all legal means; incent utilities to hasten developing renewables and transmission infrastructure for export/domestic use; lobby the legislature to pass laws supporting these objectives; pass rules for advanced metering, new interconnection standards, and transparent utility resource procurement.

Janice E. ARNOLD-JONES
Republican



My record demonstrates my passion for fairness, transparency, and diligent preparation in public service. 4-term NM State Representative, serving on the Tax & Revenue, Voters & Elections, and Science & Technology Committees. Over 30 years of diverse private sector experience including information technology, systems development and implementation, business and financial plan development and execution, business operations, contract oversight and compliance. BA, University of New Mexico

I prefer a hybrid approach. The PRC needs continuity and strong technical expertise. Geographical diversity is vital. New Mexico would be better served by two commissioners appointed by the Governor for ten years, in five-year staggered terms and three PRC members elected from the three Congressional Districts for four-year terms.

Protect the public interest and the rate payer's right to safe, adequate, and reliable service at reasonable rates while ensuring the regulated industries right to a reasonable return on investment and the ability to attract capital investments. In so doing, the PRC should also require the highest levels of efficiency, reliability and technological innovation of each regulated sector serving New Mexico: energy, telecommunications, transportation, water, and wastewater industries.

The Legislature and Environment Department are responsible for addressing climate change. The PRC can assist in addressing climate change by actively promoting and incentivizing advanced technologies like net metering, grid modernization, transportation electrification and other innovative approaches which lead to meeting the challenges and goals posed by climate change.

District 3

Joseph M. MAESTAS
Democrat



I have bachelors and masters degrees in civil engineering. As a lifelong public servant, I served our country as a Federal engineer and regulator for over 30 years working at all levels of Federal government. I served my communities for 14 years as councilman and Mayor for the City of Espanola; and councilman for the City of Santa Fe, all quasi-judicial bodies like the PRC. I'm currently a consulting engineer and licensed to practice engineering in the States of Arizona, New Mexico, and Texas.

Nationally, our democracy is under threat. Trusting voters to elect their representatives is key to our reflective democracy. I don't believe voters will undermine New Mexico's democracy by removing their voice and choice to elect PRC commissioners by voting in favor of a proposed State constitutional amendment to change the commission from elected to appointed. A smaller, appointed commission with longer terms of office will only serve industry insiders and special interests, not the consumers.

The PRC reviews a utility's cost of service and establishes utility rates necessary to recover those costs. The PRC determines that such costs are reasonable and prudent, including a reasonable return on equity, for the utility to provide adequate, efficient, and reasonable service. The PRC verifies costs with adjustments for known and projected changes whereby recovery of these costs must be equitably shared among different customer classes. By law, utility rates must be just and reasonable.

As an engineer, I trust the science that tells us that climate change is a real threat to us now and in the future. Our State is a national leader in addressing climate change through the enactment of the Energy Transition Act (ETA) of 2019 which accelerates our transition to 100% renewable energy. Growing our renewable energy sector will help create new jobs, diversify our economy, and reduce our dependence on fossil fuels. The PRC is key to the implementation of the ETA and other legislation.

Christopher B. LUCHINI
Republican



I have a PhD in High Energy Physics, and have run an oil and gas research and development company, and a GeoThermal green energy company since 2010. I am well versed in in the physics, economics and regulatory environment of alternative energy generation, transmission and storage.

Regulatory capture is the process where a regulated commercial sector has disproportionate influence on those regulating that sector. While having the members of the PRC be elected is not a cure for regulatory capture, the alternative method of having those members of the PRC be appointed will likely result in industry insiders having even more power within the PRC that they do no. So I would oppose converting the PRC to an appointed body.

Utility investors need to receive a risk weighted return on their investment. Unfortunately utility rates are set as a return-on-capital, giving management an incentive to spend more on imprudent or wasteful capital projects, as a way to increase profits. The PRC needs to be aggressive in discounting wasteful capital spending projects, so that rate payers don't pay for those projects. Rate payers must accept that build out of Green projects will require (hopefully temporary) higher rates.

uGiven that the Energy Transmission Act explicitly directs the PRC to regulate electricity production away from carbon based energy, the PRC must act to implement the ETA to the best of their ability. Under the ETA it is the duty of the PRC to address carbon and other GreenHouse Gas emissions.

PUBLIC EDUCATION COMMISSIONER

Four-year term. Member of ten-person commission that advises the Secretary of Public Education. Commission authorizes and monitors all state-chartered charter schools. Commissioners must be 18 years of age, a United States citizen, and reside in the district he/she represents. There are four-year staggered terms. Districts 1, 4, and 8 in our four-county area are up for election in 2020. District 1 includes parts of western Bernalillo County; District 4 includes parts of Bernalillo and Sandoval Counties as well as parts of Santa Fe and Los Alamos Counties and District 8 includes Torrance County and parts of Bernalillo County as well as the counties in Eastern New Mexico. Only voters registered to vote in the respective districts are eligible to vote for the candidates in that District. No salary, but \$95 per diem, plus mileage.

<i>What in your background qualifies you to sit on the Public Education Commission? (65 words)</i>	<i>If elected, what are your two highest priorities? (65 words)</i>	<i>What is your position on opening new charter schools? Should there be a cap on the total number of state charter schools? (65 words)</i>	<i>How should the PEC assess the financial stability of schools before authorizing or renewing a charter? (65 words)</i>
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District 1

Melissa D. ARMIJO
Democrat

UNOPPOSED

District 4

Rebekka Kay BURT
Democrat



I started my career as an 8th grade English teacher in Rio Rancho. I spent several years as a policy analyst at ABQ City Council. I then combine my background in education and knowledge of policy to serve New Mexico at the Public Education Department. I most recently joined a NM technology company, supporting educators in sharing resources. I have a Bachelor's degree in Elementary Education and a Master's degree in Business Administration, both from New Mexico Highlands University.

1. Stabilizing our state's education system after this global pandemic by partnering with the Public Education Department to provide high quality support, strategies & resources needed to schools and teachers at this unprecedented time. 2. As an educator, I know that students learn best when they find what they are passionate about and have the opportunity to grow in that passion. This is not always traditional learning. I would advocate to expand vocational education opportunities for students.

All families deserve to have high quality options for their children for public education. Not every student fits best into their neighborhood school. I would support all new applicants & renewals being held to a high standard. In contemplating a new charter or a cap, I would consider the area it is being proposed to ensure it is not already being served by several schools options. We have some areas in our state that have many options & some that don't have any. It should be more equitable.

I believe in maintaining a high standard of accountability with our public charter schools in finances, audits & performance. I would like to see transparency in spending in schools by showing where money is being spent and that money is being used to serve our students who need it the most. I would advocate to provide more support and training to charter leaders and governing boards on budgeting. I do believe malfeasance in finances is a valid reason to close or not renew a charter.

Laura BURROWS
Libertarian

I'm a long time educator; Education Coordinator of the Aerospace Education Center of Little Rock Arkansas; Field Outreach Educator for the Los Angeles Museum of Natural History; Board member of Pajarito Environmental Education Center 2000-2002, and an substitute teacher for Los Alamos Public Schools and UNMLA. I am currently elected to the UNMLA Advisory Board.

Insure the widest possible adoption of Charter Schools in New Mexico Public Schools System, consistent with a quality education for students from a wide variety of cultural, socioeconomic backgrounds, and interests. I have a particular interest in supporting high quality education for non- college track students, not as an afterthought, but as a primary mission of specialized integrated curriculum, and charter schools.

The very concept of putting a cap on the number of charter schools betrays an interest not in the welfare and benefit of the students, but rather of other institutional interests. There should be precisely, exactly as many charter schools as are needed to benefit the students, no more and no less.

Rationally and logically, and without political or institutional bias.

District 8

Michael M. TAYLOR
Republican

UNOPPOSED

DISTRICT COURT JUDGE – Partisan

There are thirteen court districts in New Mexico. These courts hold jury trials in contract, real property rights, estate contests, and torts. District courts generally have exclusive jurisdiction over appeals concerning domestic relations, mental health, administrative agencies, lower court decisions, criminal cases, and juvenile jurisdiction. The Second Judicial District (Bernalillo County) only deals with felony DWI cases and felony domestic violence cases. The Thirteenth Judicial District includes Cibola, Sandoval and Valencia counties.

Vacancies in courts in New Mexico are filled through appointment by the Governor from a slate of potential nominees submitted by a judicial nominating committee. The newly appointed judge must then run in a contested, partisan election at the next general election. Thereafter, the judge runs in nonpartisan retention elections. To be retained, a judge must receive at least 57% of affirmative votes cast in the retention election.

Six-year term. Must be at least 35 years old, have been engaged in actual practice of law for at least six years preceding assumption of office, and must be a resident of the district from which elected. Salary: \$126,186.

2nd Judicial District (Bernalillo County)

Division 6

Daniel E RAMCZYK
Democrat

UNOPPOSED

2nd Judicial District continued (Bernalillo County)
Division 13

Lisa Chavez ORTEGA
Democrat

UNOPPOSED

What do you perceive as the greatest obstacle to equal justice in this judicial district? (65 words)

What steps would you take to ensure improvement to physical and remove access to the court, such as calling in to telephonic hearings, overcoming limited internet access, etc.? (65 words)

What do you think of expanding specialty courts, i.e. DWI/Drug Courts, pretrial diversion? (65 words)

What is the simple most important qualification you would bring to the bench as a district court judge? (65 words)

Division 15

Courtney BRYN WEAKS
Democrat



The greatest obstacle to equal justice in our judicial district is a lack of community within the broader criminal justice system. There are many stakeholders within the criminal justice system that are adverse to one another, and getting those stakeholders to openly discuss the relevant issues is key to improving how the system operates. Reducing crime is the end goal, but addressing issues in a collective manner is key to systemic improvements that promote public safety and reduce recidivism.

I believe the courts need designated areas away from the courthouse that have both telephones and computers with adequate internet access so those who do not have the capability to appear remotely can. Metropolitan Court has worked on using designated classrooms next to the courthouse, usually used for court related programs, for this purpose. It is also important that the courts work with the Law Offices of the Public Defender to make sure their clients may effectively appear remotely.

As the presiding judge of Metropolitan Court's Specialty Court Programs, I am passionate about this issue. We cannot discuss effective criminal justice reform without providing substance abuse treatment and mental health services to the most vulnerable and indigent members of our society. Expansion of specialty courts provides this opportunity. When these programs work effectively, defendants simply do not re-offend. Not only does this promote public safety, but saves valuable tax dollars.

The fact that I am a mother is my simplest and most important qualification. Since having my daughter I have a keener sense of the importance of empathy, and not taking things personally. Now more than ever I have a desire to make Bernalillo County the best it can possibly be so she has a safe place to grow up in where she also feels supported and cared for by her community. I am also proud to be in a unique position to teach her the importance of fairness, equality and access to justice.

Daniel J. GALLEGOS
Republican



We need to take politics out of judicial elections. As recent events have shown, it's more important than ever that our judiciary adequately reflects the community it serves. However, partisan elections in judicial races have a tendency to elevate party affiliation and political whims over qualifications and diverse perspectives. We need qualified judges who will preside over cases in a fair and impartial manner, and ensure that all parties receive respectful treatment, without a partisan bent.

Our Supreme Court has done an extraordinary job balancing access to the courts with community safety during the ongoing public health crisis. My job as a district court judge has been to carry out the Court's orders and to continue moving my felony criminal docket forward while utilizing remote video and teleconferencing. I have been impressed with the patience, flexibility, and adaptability of all those involved. We'll continue to overcome limitations with a positive, forward-thinking attitude.

As a judge assisting with the district court's Young Adult Court and DWI Court programs, I've seen firsthand the positive impact a well-run specialty court can have on the lives of those who complete the program. However, a specialty court requires much in the way of resources and effort. I am in favor of expanding specialty courts, but we must ensure that any expansion is coupled with all necessary resources. At the same time, we must not lose sight of traditional sentencing where appropriate.

Quite simply, I am the only person running who has been deemed qualified to serve as a district court judge by the bipartisan Judicial Nominating Commission. I bring extensive legal experience, including prior service as a judge on the Court of Appeals, the state's second highest court, as well as a felony prosecutor, an appellate staff attorney, and a Navy JAG. In my nearly two years as a district court judge, I've earned a reputation in and out of the courtroom for strong, impartial judgment.

Division 17

Erin B. OCONNELL
Democrat

UNOPPOSED

Division 22

Amber Louisee CHAVEZ BAKER
Democrat

UNOPPOSED

Division 23

Joshua A. ALLISON
Democrat

UNOPPOSED

13th Judicial District (includes Sandoval, and Valencia Counties)

“Let us never forget that government is ourselves and not an alien power over us. The ultimate rulers are not a President or senators and congressmen and government officials, but the voters of this country.”
– President Franklin D. Roosevelt

13th Judicial District continued (Sandoval and Valencia Counties)

Division 5

James A. NOEL
Democrat

UNOPPOSED

Division 7

Chris G. PEREZ
Democrat

UNOPPOSED

DISTRICT ATTORNEY

Four-year term. The Second Judicial District serves Bernalillo County. The Seventh Judicial District includes Catron, Sierra, Socorro and Torrance counties. The Thirteenth Judicial District includes Cibola, Sandoval and Valencia counties. The District Attorney oversees the office that prosecutes and defends for the state in Bernalillo County courts, including civil and criminal cases in which the state or county has an interest, represents the county before the county commissioners, advises county and state officers upon request, and represents the county in civil cases before higher courts, except in suits brought in the name of the state. Must be at least 21 years of age and a resident of New Mexico for three years, learned in the law, and a resident of the district from which elected. Salary: \$125,838.

2nd Judicial District (Bernalillo County)

Raul TORREZ
Democrat


UNOPPOSED

7th Judicial District (Torrance, Sierra, Catron and Socorro counties)

Clint WELLBORN
Republican

UNOPPOSED

13th Judicial District (Cibola, Sandoval and Valencia counties)

	<i>Where do you stand on the issue of holding preliminary hearings in felony cases as opposed to using the grand jury indictment process? (65 words)</i>	<i>Where do you stand on the increased use of specialty courts, i.e., DWI/Drug Court, pretrial diversion? (65 words)</i>	<i>What is the greatest obstacle to justice in the county? (65 words)</i>	<i>Describe the professional experience that prepares and qualifies you to be district attorney. (65 words)</i>
<div><div><div>Barbara A. ROMO Democrat</div><div></div></div><div>Having worked in a district that did not have a grand jury option, as well as in two districts that have the option of either, there are advantages and disadvantages to both. For cases involving very young or vulnerable victims, it is preferable to use a grand jury to spare the added trauma of testifying in front of their abuser at the preliminary stage of the proceedings. Preliminary hearings can be very useful for lower level and non-violent felonies and should be used whenever possible.</div></div>		I am a big proponent of the expansion of specialty courts and diversion programs. I have already discussed plans to expand the District Attorney's pre-trial diversion program with the current Director of the 13th DA's program. I have also explored options of additional specialty courts, such as the creation of a Veterans Court, which has been implemented with great success in other parts of the State. This is a critical step in ending the revolving door of low-level non-violent offenders.	Lack of adequate resources. All players in the system are overwhelmed; prosecutors, public defenders, judges, law enforcement, probation and parole, drug and alcohol counselors, and CYFD amongst others. Each of these entities plays a vital role in ensuring justice is meted out fairly, efficiently, and professionally. Lack of adequate resources causes many otherwise dedicated public servants to cut corners, get burned out, and leave their profession for less stress and greater pay.	US Army Veteran and career prosecutor with 24 years experience. I have held numerous leadership positions, both as an Army Officer and supervisor of several district attorney offices; the Chief Deputy District Attorney in two districts. As the current Chief Deputy in the 13th, I have a vast knowledge of the entire district. I have established relationships with community partners such as law enforcement as well as experience working with other elected District Attorneys in the Legislature.
<div><div><div>Joshua Joe JIMENEZ Republican</div><div></div></div><div>NO RESPONSE RECEIVED</div></div>				

“The highest measure of democracy is neither the ‘extent of freedom’ nor the ‘extent of equality’, but rather the highest measure of participation.”

– Alain de Benoist

“A citizen of America will cross the ocean to fight for democracy, but won’t cross the street to vote in a national election.”

– Bill Vaughan

BERNALILLO COUNTY OFFICES

METROPOLITAN COURT JUDGES - Partisan

Four-year term. The Bernalillo County Metropolitan Court is part of the statewide Magistrate Court System and is state funded. The court has jurisdiction over civil actions under \$10,000, felony first appearances, misdemeanors, misdemeanor DWI/DUI, misdemeanor domestic violence and traffic violations. Must be at least 18 years old and a member of the New Mexico Bar engaged in the actual practice of law in New Mexico for three years. Salary: \$119,870.

Division 10

Brittany MALDONADO MALOTT
Democrat UNOPPOSED

Division 12

Jason M. JARAMILLO
Democrat UNOPPOSED

Division 15

Felicia R. BLEA-RIVERA
Democrat UNOPPOSED

Division 16

David A. MURPHY
Democrat UNOPPOSED

BERNALILLO COUNTY COMMISSIONER

Four-year term. Member of a five-person commission that is responsible for the county government budget, county ordinances and resolutions, and zoning and business regulation in unincorporated areas, and sets policy for the operations of county government. Must be at least 18 years old and must be a resident of the district in which elected. Districts 2, 3, and 4 are up for election this year. Salary: \$39,106.

District 2 covers some of the southwestern part of Bernalillo county south of Interstate 40 to the southern county line and some of the very southern part of the southeastern part of the county. See the district map at <https://www.bernco.gov/District-2/district-2-map.aspx> for the exact boundaries of the district.

DISTRICT 2

Steven Michael QUEZADA
Democrat UNOPPOSED

District 3 covers some of the central part of Bernalillo County. See the district map at <https://www.bernco.gov/District-3/district-map.aspx> for the exact boundaries of the district.

DISTRICT 3

Adrian N. BARBOA
Democrat UNOPPOSED

District 4 covers the north central part of Bernalillo County to the northern county boundary. See the district map at <https://www.bernco.gov/District-4/district-map.aspx> for the exact boundaries of the district.

<i>What are the highest priorities the county should address? (65 words)</i>	<i>What do you think about reallocating funding from law enforcement to preventative social programs? (65 words)</i>	<i>What specific plans do you have to address the homeless crisis in Bernalillo County? (65 words)</i>	<i>How would you balance the demands for economic development and growth with the county's limited resources? (65 words)</i>
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DISTRICT 4

Wende SCHWINGENDORF
Democrat



NM and ABQ areas were among the slowest of all states/Metro-politan Statistical areas to recover from the 08 recession. We must make sure we do not get stuck as the world pulls out of COVID-19. The top priorities the county should address are rebuilding our local economy by ensuring protections for our small businesses, home-based businesses, and our front-line workers; developing innovative strategies to increase public safety; and ensuring access to timely, quality, and affordable healthcare.

I believe in providing law enforcement the tools and support they need to assist in calls involving people experiencing mental health issues, addictions, or other non-violent situations. That includes assistance from dispatched mental health professionals and social workers, depending on the nature of the call. A criminal record could prevent a young person from joining the military or obtaining a sustainable job, when counseling and/or treatment would be a more productive solution.


We must evaluate the root causes of homelessness within our county. Access and affordable treatment and management of chronic health and behavioral health, affordable stable housing, and access to sustainable job training and employment are three of the strongest ways to mitigate the risk of homelessness. I will work with experts in these fields to develop innovative solutions to address this crisis in our community.

Economic development on Albuquerque's Westside will help with the housing-to-jobs ratio imbalance. Investment in public infrastructure such as curbs, sidewalks, and gutter installation, lighting, and paving will assist new businesses, large and small, to open and flourish while also providing dozens of jobs to the community. Using the funds already appropriated to public infrastructure will not impose new taxes on county residents, and will attract new businesses.

Bernalillo County Commissioner (continued)

What are the highest priorities the county should address? (65 words)	What do you think about reallocating funding from law enforcement to preventative social programs? (65 words)	What specific plans do you have to address the homeless crisis in Bernalillo County? (65 words)	How would you balance the demands for economic development and growth with the county's limited resources? (65 words)
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DISTRICT 4 (continued)

<p>George Walton BENSON Republican</p> 	<p>1) Stimulate our local economy, attracting and creating jobs. 2) Combat the record crime levels that have given us national ranking as one of the most violent cities in America. 3) Providing practical and relevant services to our homeless population - reducing homelessness and recidivism.</p>	<p>I agree that our law enforcement will benefit from having social work professionals that can address non-violent emergencies. We need to augment our law enforcement with these services. But first, we need to fully support our law enforcement with an appropriate budget and staff - both are currently sub-par. Once we have a police force that can combat our record crime levels, then we can allocate resources to additional social work services. It's important to keep first things first.</p>	<p>As an Operations Consultant for a mental health clinic that works with the homeless population, I have learned that there are two primary issues underlying the crisis: under diagnosed and under treated mental health issues and drug abuse. It's critical that Bernalillo County unite with the City of Albuquerque to provide shelter for the homeless and at the same time provide access to the diagnoses and treatment they need. Job skills training is the final step in helping end homelessness.</p>	<p>We need to incentivize businesses to stay in (or come to) Bernalillo County. As a business owner I know first hand how hard it is to grow a business, and our local government does not encourage it - based on the high GRT rates, numerous regulations, and burdensome employment laws. Because of this, many have left our community forever. We need to reduce our regulatory and tax burdens in order to attract businesses that can in turn attract/keep talent. This will increase our limited resources.</p>
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BERNALILLO COUNTY CLERK

Four-year term. The clerk is an ex-officio recorder of Bernalillo County and may legally record any document that is certified. The office also issues marriage and occupational licenses. The county clerk's bureau of elections administers all elections in the county. Must be at least 18 years of age and a resident of Bernalillo County. Salary: \$86,626.

<p>Linda STOVER Democrat</p>	UNOPPOSED
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BERNALILLO COUNTY TREASURER

Four-year term. The treasurer is responsible for collecting property taxes in Bernalillo County and for the supervision and investment of funds. The treasurer's office collects and distributes property taxes to different government agencies, including the City of Albuquerque. Must be at least 18-years of age and a resident of Bernalillo County. Salary: \$86,626.

<p>Nancy Marie BEARCE Democrat</p>	UNOPPOSED
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SANDOVAL COUNTY OFFICES


SANDOVAL COUNTY COMMISSIONER

Four-year term. Member of a five-person commission that is responsible for the county government budget, county ordinances and resolutions, and zoning and business regulation in unincorporated areas, and sets policy for the operations of county government. Must be at least 18 years old and must be a resident of the district in which elected. Districts 2, 4, and 5 are up for election this year. Must be at least 18 years old, and a resident of the district from which elected. Salary: \$34,005.

District 2 covers Corrales and southeastern Rio Rancho. See the district map at <http://www.sandovalcountynm.gov/wp-content/uploads/2017/11/Commission2Precinct.pdf> for the exact boundaries of the district.

How would you increase access to quality health care in the county? (65 words)	How will you update high speed internet access in the county? (65 words)	What are the two highest priorities for the county? (65 words)	How would you balance the demands for economic development and growth with the county's limited resources? (65 words)
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DISTRICT 2

<p>Leah Michelle AHKEE-BACZKIEWICZ Democrat</p> 	<p>As a healthcare worker this issue is top on my list of priorities. I believe that we must communicate and work with County, State, and Federal entities including Indigenous Tribes in Sandoval. It is important that we continue to support our hospitals by taking advantage of opportunities to keep them equipped and staffed. We need to support our first Responders. We also need to assure that our infrastructure including roads are safe and accessible</p>	<p>Internet access to all areas in Sandoval is vital for all aspects of our lives. As leaders in Sandoval reliable internet access should be at the top of our list of priorities. Since the County has no direct control over internet providers, it is incumbent that we work with Federal and State agencies to upgrade and expand broadband service. The Governor recently spoke to this issue and we will need leadership at all levels of government to make this work.</p>	<p>An immediate priority would be recovery from the Covid-19 pandemic. We need to protect our hospitals, keep close tabs on the funding aspect, and its allocation. Hospitals throughout the nation are losing billions of dollars due to Covid-19. As a Class A County, Sandoval needs to have class A health care facilities. Supporting our law enforcement and first responders and protecting our water resources are also at the top of my list. We need to fund our essential services at adequate levels.</p>	<p>Economic development will bring additional financial resources to the County. But to start, we need to aggressively seek State and Federal monies to improve our infrastructure and to help fund needed repairs and expansions of roadways and utilities. It will also require much more outreach and mutual cooperation among the incorporated areas of the County, the Native American communities, and rural groups. Partnerships are essential because of the County's limited financial resources</p>
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Sandoval County Commissioner (continued)

How would you increase access to quality health care in the county? (65 words)	How will you update high speed internet access in the county? (65 words)	What are the two highest priorities for the county? (65 words)	How would you balance the demands for economic development and growth with the county's limited resources? (65 words)
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DISTRICT 2 (continued)

Jay C. BLOCK
Republican



Thankfully, we have several options with access to three incredible hospitals plus medical services at Optum, Presbyterian Medical Services, and the Sandoval County Health Commons. The County Health Commons provides onsite and mobile Health Care Assistance. Sandoval County's health care services focuses on educating residents about what services are available to residents to ensure they have access to health care.

Currently county libraries use DSL, broadband and cellular bridges. However, due to the large size and topography of our county, connections can be limited. This can also affect our first responders responding to emergencies in isolated areas of the county. In the near future, we will have technology advances using low earth satellites providing high speed internet access to the entire county. Lastly, the county is ready to partner with industry to find solutions meeting residents needs.

Public safety is my #1 priority. My commitment to the Sheriff's Dept, EMS/Fire Dept staffing and 911 communication enhancements was critical to responding to residents in rural isolated areas. My support for these departments led to their unions to endorse me. My #2 priority is economic development (ED). Our ED fund expanded several small business creating over 240 jobs expanding the tax base supporting public safety, health care, education, seniors and youth programs.

I supported and helped pass the first-ever ED fund that created over 240 manufacturing and technology small business jobs, renegotiated the IRB with Intel resulting in over 300 new jobs plus 100s of additional union contract jobs and negotiated the UNMSRMC agreement for behavioral health, substance abuse and level 3 Trauma medical service resulting in an increase in medical jobs.

District 4 covers western Rio Rancho. See the district map at <http://www.sandovalcountynm.gov/wp-content/uploads/2017/05/Commission4Precinct.pdf> for the exact boundaries of the district.

DISTRICT 4

Alexandria C. PILAND
Democrat



I would grow the County's working relationship with both SRMC and Presbyterian Rust Hospitals and encourage expansion of satellite facilities. Also, it is important to increase service relationships with the Pueblos and Tribes.

We need to work with the federal government and obtain federal funding, and grants to improve high speed Internet access. This is an issue that needs cooperation among all levels of government in NM.

A budget review and realignment of budget priorities for the citizens of the county should be the first priority in 2021. A review and reinforcement of essential county services which include fire, police, emergency services, and county health facility outreach should also be a top priority.

I support new industries and businesses in Sandoval County that include agriculture and alternative power sources. I would like to see a program where businesses could help other businesses in our county via a county program that connects them with each other.

David J. HEIL
Republican



We are blessed with access to 3.hospitals; Lovelace, Presbyterian Rust, and UNMSRMC plus medical services at Optum, Presbyterian Medical Services, and Sandoval County Health Commons to note the prominent providers. The County Health Commons at 1500 Idalia Rd provides Health Care Assistance including mobile service to rural areas. I'll fund and encourage County's Community Services focus on educating residents about what services are available to them so they have access to quality health care.

Now, county libraries are using DSL, broadband and cellular bridges with varying success dependent on topography. Micro-wave links are available to a few locations and our first responders are updating 911 communications in parts of the county to improve response. Wireless technology will be the answer to providing high speed internet especially throughout the more rural parts of the county. There are a few options on the horizon with Starlink's low orbiting small satellites as the most promising

Economic development because it provides good quality jobs and through taxes funds services including public safety, health care, education, environmentally conscientious, seniors and youth programs; and Public Safety because it helps provide the stable environment for a vibrant and healthy community in which people want to live and businesses want to grow. Our commitment to Sheriff Dept, EMS/Fire staffing and 911 communication enhancements helps assure optimum response to residents' needs.

I helped implement the County's Economic Development fund which supports over 240 small business jobs; negotiated the IRB resulting in over 300 Intel jobs plus 100s of union contract jobs; negotiated the UNMSRMC agreement for behavioral health, substance abuse and level 3 Trauma medical service resulting in an increase in medical jobs. I lead establishing SEA's Economic Gardening plan to help local small businesses grow and the Veriready plan to identify commercial lots for new businesses.

District 5 covers northwestern Sandoval County. See the district map at <http://www.sandovalcountynm.gov/wp-content/uploads/2017/09/Commission5Precinct.pdf> for the exact boundaries of the district.

DISTRICT 5

F. Kenneth EICHWALD
Democrat



UNOPPOSED

"The vote is a trust more delicate than any other, for it involves not just the interests of the voter, but his life, honor and future as well."

– Jose Marti



SANDOVAL COUNTY CLERK

Four-year term. The clerk is the ex-officio recorder of Sandoval County and may legally record any document that is certified. The office also issues marriage and occupational licenses. The county clerk’s bureau of elections administers all elections in the county. Must be at least 18 years of age and a resident of Sandoval County. Salary: \$75,000.

	Why should people vote for you? (65 words)	What are the most urgent needs in the county clerk’s office? (65 words)	What steps would you take to increase voter turnout in the county? (65 words)	Do you support sending every voter an absentee ballot application for all elections? (65 words)
Anne S. BRADY-ROMERO Democrat	 <p>I have had the great honor of serving as the Chief Deputy Clerk in Sandoval County since 2013. I have a vision for the future, and it's high time a government for the people and by the people becomes more convenient for the wonderful residents in Sandoval County. I will ensure we have a community outreach program that takes the Clerk's Office and Bureau of Elections into places throughout the community. to make transactions with the office easier.</p>	<p>Ensuring we expand and provide equal access to the ballot box in Sandoval County is most urgent. All voting sites will be ADA compliant. Sandoval County has more sovereign nations than any county in NM, so I will form a Native American Voting Advisory Committee with Pueblo Governors & Chapter Presidents to ensure they are part of the planning process. I will ask the County Commission to fund the acquisition of a mobile voting unit to help make voting more convenient for everyone in the County.</p>	<p>1. I will develop and implement a comprehensive voter outreach program. 2. I will develop an education awareness campaign for upcoming elections. 3. I will increase the number of voting sites and ensure voting is convenient for everyone.</p>	<p>Absolutely. I support any measure to expand access and make voting easier. The absentee ballot is another tool to ensure every registered voter has the right to vote. The benefit is that folks who really don't have time because they're working multiple jobs can still exercise their right to vote. I am a traditional voter. I like to go to my local polling site to interact with my friends and neighbors, but I realize not everyone has the time; providing an application ensures equal access to all.</p>
Lawrence D. GRIEGO Republican	 <p>It's time to clean up our voter rolls, stop the dangerous practice of ballot harvesting, and make sure there are enough safe and clean polling sites for every county resident to have the option to vote in person. As your Chief Election Officer, I will support voter ID laws, accurate voter records, official mail-in absentee ballots, and the electoral college. Earned national certifications and a BS in Org. Leadership to enhance my 14+ years of service in a Sandoval County Administrative Office.</p>	<p>Covid has created an urgent need for Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) at all Voting Convenience Centers (VCC) and Early Voting Locations (EVL) to ensure citizens can safely cast their vote. In addition to clean polling locations, it is important that voter rolls are clean too. The deceased, people that have moved, duplicates, and even pets need to be purged from the voter rolls. Another urgent need is an online records system to facilitate county record searches.</p>	<p>I will ensure there are enough VCCs and EVLs (stocked with PPE) so that every county resident has the option to safely vote in person. In addition, I will increase voter turnout by focusing on Voter Registration, Voter Education, and Voter Participation. Information about registration deadlines, eligibility, the voting process, voter rights, and voter responsibilities is important to every voter and will be communicated by community outreach, mail, website, and social media avenues.</p>	<p>Yes. The absentee ballot application process is safer than universal vote by mail because the voter is still required to complete and submit an application before a live ballot is mailed</p>

SANDOVAL COUNTY TREASURER

Four-year term. The treasurer is responsible for collecting property taxes in Sandoval County, and for the supervision and investment of funds. The treasurer’s office collects and distributes property taxes to different government agencies. Must be at least 18 years of age and a resident of Sandoval County. Salary: \$75,000.

	Describe the professional experience that prepares you to be county treasurer. (65 words)	What are the most urgent needs of the county treasurer’s office? (65 words)	Should the county treasurer continue to be an elected position? Why or why not? (65 words)	What investment strategies do you think would benefit the county most? (65 words)
Jennifer A. TAYLOR Democrat	 <p>My current occupation of Chief Deputy Treasurer is what has prepared me for the position of County Treasurer. I have been trained and educated in every area of the office dealing with property tax collection, bond payments, distribution, annual audits, investments and most importantly, customer service. I have received my Certified Treasury Official and Certified Public Official designations through the NM EDGE Classes offered by NMSU.</p>	<p>To ensure that we are being fair, equitable and consistent when collecting property taxes. The delinquent accounts that we have in our county need to be dealt with by either collecting on them or handed over to the state. With COVID having had such a negative impact on the economy, it is uncertain how it will affect our 2020 tax season and the efforts in collecting for those delinquent accounts. It will be vital for the next Treasurer to be knowledgeable and experienced in taking on this task.</p>	<p>Although I believe that the Office of the County Treasurer is a non-partisan position, I believe that it should be up to the citizens of the County to decide who they believe is the most qualified and fit to serve in that capacity. The most important reason is because the person serving in that role is responsible for managing their taxpayer dollars by serving as the county banker.</p>	<p>Safety, liquidity and yield is my philosophy in managing investments. Practicing safe investments to protect taxpayer money while ensuring they are equitable. Liquidity is essential when investing as this allows money to be moved around or converted into cash if needed. The ultimate goal is to earn off of our investment dollars using best investment practices (yield). Making prudent decisions when handling public funds is essential.</p>
Benay P. WARD Republican	 <p>15 years working in the San Juan County Assessor’s Office mainly as the Quality Control Supervisor; an auditing and reporting function that included the eligibility and verification of tax savings benefits offered to property owners. I also served as Deputy Assessor managing the operation of the entire department. Working full time I earned my Bachelor’s & Master’s in Business Administration. This office isn’t a business, but it can benefit from my practical experience and educational background</p>	<p>Our county is one of the fastest growing in NM. The Treasurer must be highly qualified and knowledgeable to invest funds necessary not only for the vitality of Rio Rancho, Bernalillo and Corrales but also the rural areas of our county. Sandoval County must diversify revenues to provide financial stability for a successful future for all. At this critical time, I will effectively identify new opportunities and mitigate risks in support of economic development and the citizens of Sandoval County.</p>	<p>Yes, I believe the county treasurer should continue to be an elected position. It is vital that any government office knows the laws by which they are governed while never forgetting their responsibilities to the citizens they serve. The laws which affect the Treasurer’s Office must be applied accurately to everyone and not ignored or waived for special interest groups. I pledge to uphold these laws and to ensure that all property owners are treated courteously and fairly within the law.</p>	<p>With the impact COVID19 has had on our community and our economy the investment policy for Sandoval County must be attuned to the highest and safest returns possible according to the law. In cooperation with the Board of Commissioners sitting as the County Board of Finance, we must develop a solid investment strategy that tailors investments to meet the county’s goals and expectations. I will communicate clear goals so the county will be provided safe, liquid, and high yield investments.</p>

“The ignorance of one voter in a democracy impairs the security of all.”
– John F. Kennedy

TORRANCE COUNTY OFFICES

TORRANCE COUNTY COMMISSIONER

Four-year term. Member of a three-person commission that is responsible for the county government budget, county ordinances and resolutions, and zoning and business regulation in unincorporated areas, and sets policy for the operations of county government. Must be at least 18 years old and must be a resident of the district in which elected. District 3 is up for election this year. Salary: \$26,258.

DISTRICT 3

**Javier Ernest
SANCHEZ**
Democrat


NO RESPONSE RECEIVED

**Leroy M.
CANDELARIA**
Republican

NO RESPONSE RECEIVED

TORRANCE COUNTY CLERK

Four-year term. The clerk is an ex-officio recorder of Torrance County and may legally record any document that is certified. The office also issues marriage and occupational licenses. The county clerk's bureau of elections administers all elections in the county. Must be at least 18 years of age and a resident of Torrance County. Salary: \$65,855.

	Why should people vote for you? (65 words)	What are the most urgent needs in the county clerk's office? (65 words)	What steps would you take to increase voter turnout in the county? (65 words)	Do you support sending every voter an absentee ballot application for all elections? (65 words)
Rubena A. MIRANDA Democrat 	<p>A lifelong resident of Torrance County, I have always been involved in our communities in a public service capacity. More so, directly working as presiding judge in all aspects of elections for 20+ years. I have the experience and integrity to continue to serve and I am committed to providing considerate, prompt and undivided attention to the residents of Torrance and beyond as they come in to conduct business. I am bilingual, have a great rapport with all and am very eager.</p>	<p>During the current pandemic, it is imperative to stress the importance of voting and to apprise the voters of their options. To advertise and provide information with complete clarity, as there is some confusion. I recommend that you contact your local county clerk as absentee applications begin to circulate, to clarify any uncertainty. Furthermore, to provide assistance in all aspects of the office insuring conscientious service.</p>	<p>Increased advertisement and complete clarity to the voters of Torrance county. Offering as much assistance as possible through the clerk's office and other local organizations. As residents are in need of assistance with transportation and/ or any other special needs. To not disenfranchise any of the election process.</p>	<p>No. In my experience with elections and part of the privilege and right to vote; it's that constituents pride themselves in exercising that right how they so choose. Voters are loyal and know to request the application if this is their choice in which to vote. The current pandemic has new health guidelines that have changed the process somewhat. So for the time being, I agree to the all out mail out of absentee applications in hopes that the normal returns.</p>
Yvonne OTERO Republican	NO RESPONSE RECEIVED			

TORRANCE COUNTY TREASURER

Four-year term. The treasurer is responsible for collecting property taxes in Torrance County, and for the supervision and investment of funds. The treasurer's office collects and distributes property taxes to different government agencies. Must be at least 18 years of age and a resident of Torrance County. Salary: \$65,855.

**Tracy L.
SEDILLO**
Republican

UNOPPOSED

VALENCIA COUNTY OFFICES

VALENCIA COUNTY COMMISSIONER

Four-year term. Member of a five-person commission that is responsible for the county government budget, county ordinances and resolutions, and zoning and business regulation in unincorporated areas, and sets policy for the operations of county government. Must be at least 18 years old and must be a resident of the district in which elected. Districts 2, 4, and 5 are up for election this year. Salary: \$29,908.

"Voting is fundamental in our democracy. It has yielded enormous returns."

– Arlen Specter

Valencia County Commissioner (continued)			
How would you increase access to quality health care in the county? (65 words)	How will you update high speed internet access in the county? (65 words)	What are the two highest priorities for the county? (65 words)	How would you balance the demands for economic development and growth with the county's limited resources? (65 words)

District 2 covers the east central part of Valencia County. See the district map at <http://arcgisce.co.valencia.nm.us/flexviewers/Comissioner/> for the exact boundaries of the district.

DISTRICT 2			
Ralph R. MIRAMONTES Democrat	NO RESPONSE RECEIVED		
Troy Dean RICHARDSON Republican	Until the time that a hospital can be built and operational, I believe that the county should take measures to incentivize primary care providers, specialists, and EMS to encourage business within the county limits. I would like to meet with people within these industries to hear their concerns and, hopefully, find a way to bring more primary medical services and emergency care to the county.	While I see the importance of highspeed internet, especially during these times of distance learning, working from home, etc., I do not feel that the local government should have control over service providers. I would like to hear from providers to ensure that there are no policies that are hindering private internet service providers from bringing their infrastructure to the community. By allowing several companies to provide services in the county, prices and services can remain competitive.	Public safety and infrastructure, especially roads. Our Sherriff's office is under-funded & under-staffed which has led to a higher crime rate within our county. We need to find funds that can be used to hire more deputies and ensure they are well compensated so that they will have an incentive to remain with the VCSO. Many roads within our county are in dire need of improvement. We need to find an economically sound way to increase road maintenance on county roads, especially in rural areas.

District 4 covers the central part of Valencia County. See the district map at <http://arcgisce.co.valencia.nm.us/flexviewers/Comissioner/> for the exact boundaries of the district.

DISTRICT 4			
Leroy BACA Democrat	NO RESPONSE RECEIVED		
Joseph Aaron BIZZELL Republican	NO RESPONSE RECEIVED		

District 5 covers the northeast part of Valencia County. See the district map at <http://arcgisce.co.valencia.nm.us/flexviewers/Comissioner/> for the exact boundaries of the district.



DISTRICT 5			
David M. TYNAN Democrat	VC relies on local health care provider clinics and the NMDOH operates two offices in VC. The Older Americans Program provides transportation to specialties not available within VC for qualified persons. Increasing access requires affordable insurance and more clinics or hospital. The Affordable Care Act, Medicaid and Medicare are all vital to access. I would vigorously advocate for NM to fully fund these insurance programs. Long term - Build a hospital with a sustainable business model.	My plan to address the Digital Divide is: 1. Incorporate this into the county mangers performance criteria ensuring the manager is actively working to provide high speed internet (25Mbps download/ 3Mbps upload) to every corner of VC. 2. Apply for some of the millions of \$'s available in state and federal financial assistance and technical resources. 3. Provide public access Hot Spots in all VC facilities. 3. Long term; work with PRC to make this an essential utility, driving the cost down.	During this pandemic; quality healthcare is the highest priority for the citizens of VC followed by access to food. Outside the pandemic; the economy and water rights. Both are long term. Water is a resource for an agricultural community and grows the local economy. Water rights issues are long term and will be a major segment of my agenda weighing on every decision I make as Commissioner.
Jhonathan M. ARAGON Republican	NO RESPONSE RECEIVED		I believe that government should enable businesses with a network of infrastructure and resources, then get out of the way. Small businesses are local and most of the money generated will stay local, improving the tax revenue for the county and the quality of living in the community. My initiatives are: a. Promoting and restoring the agricultural Green Zone. b. A small business incubator with resources at VC Offices. c. A Master Plan with Comprehensive Land Use for long term planning.

“By voting, we add our voice to the chorus that forms opinions and the basis for actions.”

– Jens Stoltenberg


VALENCIA COUNTY CLERK

Four-year term. The clerk is an ex-officio recorder of Valencia County and may legally record any document that is certified. The office also issues marriage and occupational licenses. The county clerk’s bureau of elections administers all elections in the county. Must be at least 18 years of age and a resident of Valencia County. Salary: \$70,794.

<i>Why should people vote for you? (65 words)</i>	<i>What are the most urgent needs of the county clerk’s office? (65 words)</i>	<i>What steps would you take to increase voter turnout in the county? (65 words)</i>	<i>Do you support sending every voter an absentee ballot application for all elections? (65 words)</i>
<div><div>Aurora Dolores CHAVEZ Democrat</div><div></div></div> <div>I have assisted in over 26 Elections & have the experience and the knowledge to ensure that the office runs efficiently. The position of County Clerk is not one that you can just walk into, you must have the experience especially with the additional responsibilities of administering elections and adhering to all federal and state statutes. It’s crucial that the Clerk has the knowledge of the duties & processes involved and I will work tirelessly to represent every Valencia County resident.</div>	<div>We need to have mobile voting sites or satellite sites to reach our most rural residents of the county in Bosque, Casa Colorada and Highland Meadows. Keeping voters more informed about the importance of updating their voter registration is extremely important as well as providing the public with complete and accurate information regarding elections. There is also a great need to publish our documents online so that they are accessible to the public and our out of state customers.</div>	<div>Promoting and encouraging citizens to register to vote is the first step to increasing voter turnout. Having local events & a strong media presence through a website, brochures, & social media to inform voters of upcoming elections with locations & times long before the election will help voters make a plan to vote. I would work closely with community leaders, high schools & municipalities and coordinate voter drives with their local events to increase and encourage voter registration.</div>	<div>Sending an Absentee application to every registered voter simplifies the process of voting by mail especially in the current public health emergency. However, what works for one election may not work for all elections and I believe that every election has its own needs and should be looked at individually. Voters should always have the right to vote how they want whether that’s in person or by mail & every voters’ concerns should be taken into account prior to making a decision for everyone.</div>
<div><div>Michael E. MILAM Republican</div><div></div></div> <div>In my professional career as a Realtor, Property Manager, previous President of the Valencia County Board of Realtors, and serving on the Albuquerque Board of Realtors Professional Standards & Ethics committee, I have maintained a high degree of honesty, integrity, and professionalism, which is paramount in serving the best interest of our community.</div>	<div>To implement policies that will serve to address the needs of Valencia County residents.</div>	<div>Increase voter awareness of the importance of their vote, making them aware of the different Candidates qualifications. Working with High School Principals throughout the county to set up education classes regarding the importance of the Right to Vote. Increasing the voter locations throughout the county for better accessibility.</div>	<div>This policy would be an unnecessary expense to the county, and could result in fraudulent voting practices. Absentee ballots should only be sent to those resident who request one, with verifiable reasons for the necessity of an absentee ballot.</div>

VALENCIA COUNTY TREASURER

Four-year term. The treasurer is responsible for collecting property taxes in Valencia County, and for the supervision and investment of funds. The treasurer’s office collects and distributes property taxes to different government agencies. Must be at least 18 years of age and a resident of Valencia County. Salary: \$70,794.

<i>Describe the professional experience that prepares you to be county treasurer. (65 words)</i>	<i>What are the most urgent needs of the county treasurer’s office? (65 words)</i>	<i>Should the county treasurer continue to be an elected position? Why or why not? (65 words)</i>	<i>What investment strategies do you think would benefit the county most? (65 words)</i>
<div><div>Michael P. STEININGER Democrat</div><div></div></div> <div>I have over 40 years of finance experience in both the private and government sectors. I have assisted over 50 New Mexico counties and municipalities with their financial operations. I hold certifications as a: Treasury Official, Municipal Official, and Public Manager.</div>	<div>Closely monitor the current State and Local economic conditions to ensure the County has adequate cash available to pay its obligations. Cash flow must be carefully monitored and projected. Invest and protect over \$26 million in taxpayer approved tax collections, dedicated for the Valencia County Hospital, within the guidelines allowed by the Board of County Commissioners. Enhance tax collection procedures so fewer parcels are turned over to the state for collection.</div>	<div>Yes, the County Treasurer position should remain an elected position. There must be a level of independence between the Board of County Commissioners and the County Treasurer. The County Treasurer position should not be a partisan elected position. The County Treasurer’s Office is not a legislative office so the political persuasions of the candidate/office holder are irrelevant to the day-to-day operations of the office, which are mostly regulated by New Mexico state statutes.</div>	<div>New Mexico state statute regulates the types of investments that can be used by county governments. During these uncertain economic times, very short-term investments would be prudent. Even normally safe investment like T-Bills and T-Notes are experiencing wide price fluctuations and could be sold at a loss if cash was suddenly needed. New Mexico state statute requires 50% of cash be insured. To protect the taxpayers, the county needs to impose at least 100% insurance coverage.</div>
<div><div>Deseri Ann SICHLER Republican</div><div></div></div> <div>NO RESPONSE RECEIVED</div>			

“Democracy is not something you believe in or a place to hang your hat, but it’s something you do. You participate. If you stop doing it, democracy crumbles.”

– Abbie Hoffman

VALENCIA COUNTY MAGISTRATE

Four-year term. Each magistrate judge shall be a qualified elector of and reside in the magistrate district for which he/she is elected or appointed. No person is eligible for election or appointment to the office of magistrate judge unless he/she has graduated from high school or has received the equivalent of a high school education as indicated by a certificate of equivalency issued by the state Department of Public Education. Salary: Presiding Judge, \$96,588; Judge, \$95,302.

<i>What do you perceive as the greatest obstacle to equal access to justice in this county? (65 words)</i>	<i>Are the current requirements for Magistrate Judges (eg. High school diploma or equivalent for counties with a population of less than 200,000, not required to be an attorney) sufficient? Please explain your answer. (65 words)</i>	<i>What steps would you take to ensure improvement to physical and remote access to the court, such as calling in to telephonic hearings, overcoming limited internet access, etc.? (65 words)</i>	<i>What changes in training and support for Magistrate Judges would you like to see implemented? (65 words)</i>
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Valencia County Magistrate Court Division 1

Heather R. BENAVIDEZ
Democrat



It is my perception that the greatest obstacle to equal access to justice in Valencia County is the high poverty rate combined with a lack of available resources. Indigent participants experience significant disadvantages which have been exacerbated by the COVID-19 crisis, e.g., limited access to computers, internet, and phones. There is also a shortage of therapeutic interventions, and access to those services, due to a lack of reliable transportation in this largely rural county.

This is a rural state; most counties have fewer than 200,000 residents. Increasing the qualifications creates challenges for counties with small populations who lack individuals that meet even minimum requirements. Judges ensure the defendant's rights are not violated during case adjudication. Knowledge of the U.S. Constitution and N.M. laws is essential, as well as law enforcement and judiciary experience. Ultimately, defendants are protected by appeals and elections.

Improving physical and remote access to the court is a priority. Telephone and video chat hearings are being used currently and have become an integral part of the judiciary. During my tenure in Santa Fe one of my primary responsibilities was interacting with legislators regarding budgetary issues. Working with legislators helped me to understand the intricacies of funding which puts me in the unique position to advocate and secure the resources necessary to upgrade our technology.

Magistrate judges are supported by the Judicial Education Center of UNM's School of Law and the Administrative Office of the Courts who provide monthly legal trainings. We also attend an annual conference to be updated on case law, statute amendments, and new statutes. The Thirteenth District is fortunate to have district judges who assist us when needed. Implementing a mentor judge program between magistrate court and district court judges would be beneficial to our professional development.

Miles R. TAFOYA
Republican



Lack of information about available resources is a common obstacle for many people in our area. For example, the 13th District Court in Los Lunas was offering free legal clinics once a month before the pandemic. There are resources to help file a wrongful eviction and people standing by to help victims of domestic violence get to a safe place right here in Valencia County. We should highlight these resources and information so that everyone in the county can get help when they need it.

The requirements are sufficient because a magistrate judge deals with misdemeanor offenses like traffic citations and civil disputes. When we require only attorneys to be judges, we limit the pool of people who can run for this important position. A magistrate judge should be an everyday person who lives in the community they serve and someone who understands the issues that people face. The main purpose of any elected official is to represent the people they serve.

I would like to continue the use of telephonic court for issues that do not require an attorney such as traffic citations. I would like to continue to use Google Meet for issues that require an attorney when possible. We will have to adapt to the ever-changing world we live in by listening to recommendations that people have while making sure these changes do not violate anyone's right to due process.

I think supplemental training in mental health, drug addiction, and alcohol abuse would be a great addition to a judge's toolbox. These areas will help a judge make better decision that can improve positive outcomes and reduce recidivism in people suffering from these conditions. We must address mental health and alcohol and drug abuse in more ways than just incarcerating people. I would like to see more support and funding for mental health programs and drug courts for our community.

JUDICIAL RETENTION

THE NEW MEXICO COURT OF APPEALS

Eight-year term. Serves as one of ten judges on the intermediate court between the district courts and the Supreme Court. Judges sit in panels of three. Court reviews appeals in all cases, except in criminal cases involving sentences of death or life imprisonment, appeals from the Public Regulation Commission, and cases involving habeas corpus. Must be 35 years old, have practiced law for 10 years, and resided in New Mexico for the last three years. Salary: Chief Judge, \$142,697; Judge, \$140,797.

JUDGE OF THE COURT OF APPEALS - Retention

Voters at a retention election may vote either "yes" or "no" for each individual judge for retention. To retain the office, a judge standing for retention must receive 57% "yes" votes of all the votes cast on the question of retention.

Jacqueline R. MEDINA

“Voting is the most precious right of every citizen, and we have a moral obligation to ensure the integrity of our voting process.”

– Hillary Clinton

JUDICIAL RETENTION (continued)

DISTRICT COURT JUDGES - RETENTION

There are thirteen court districts in New Mexico. These courts hold jury trials in contract, real property rights, estate contests, and torts. District courts generally have exclusive jurisdiction over appeals concerning domestic relations, mental health, administrative agencies, lower court decisions, criminal cases, and juvenile jurisdiction. The Second Judicial District (Bernalillo County) only deals with felony DWI cases and felony domestic violence cases. Vacancies in courts in New Mexico are filled through appointment by the Governor from a slate of potential nominees submitted by a judicial nominating committee. The newly appointed judge must then run in a contested, partisan election at the next general election. Thereafter, the judge runs in nonpartisan retention elections. To be retained, a judge must receive at least 57% of affirmative votes cast in the retention election.

Six-year term. Must be at least 35 years old, have been engaged in actual practice of law for at least six years preceding assumption of office, and must be a resident of the district from which elected. Salary: \$126,186.

NM District Court Judge, 2nd Judicial District

The 2nd Judicial District encompasses only Bernalillo County. Voters registered in Bernalillo County may vote for or against retention of each judge in each division who is standing for retention.

Division 1

William Parnall

Division 2

Stan Whitaker

Division 3

Brett R. Loveless

Division 4

Beatrice J. Brickhouse

Division 5

Nancy J. Franchini

Division 9

Cindy Leoa

Division 10

Christina P. Argyres

Division 11

Gerard J. Lavelle

Division 12

Clay P. Campbell

Division 14

Marie Ward

Division 18

Denise Shepherd

Division 19

Benjamin Chavez

Division 20

Jacqueline Dolores Flores

JUDICIAL RETENTION (continued)

NM District Court Judge, 2nd Judicial District (continued)

Division 21

Alisa Ann Hart

Division 24

Debra Ramirez

Division 25

Jane Levy

Division 27

Victor Lopez

NM District Court Judge, 7th Judicial District

The 7th Judicial District encompasses Torrance, Sierra, Socorro, and Catron Counties. Voters registered in any of those four counties may vote for or against retention of each judge in each division who is standing for retention.

Division 1

Mercedes C. Murphy

Division 2

Matthew G. Reynolds

Division 3

Shannon L. Murdock

NM District Court Judge, 13th Judicial District

The 13th Judicial District encompasses Sandoval, Valencia, and Cibola counties. Voters registered in any of those three counties may vote for or against retention of each judge in each division who is standing for retention.

Division 1

James Lawrence Sanchez

Division 2

George P. Eichwald

Division 3

Allen R. Smith

Division 6

Cindy M. Mercer

Division 8

Cheryl H. Johnston

“Voting is the expression of our commitment to ourselves, one another, this country and this world.”

– Sharon Salzberg

NEW MEXICO CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS

Description: The State Constitution is the basic founding document for our state government originally adopted in 1912. From time to time the State Legislature approves the submission of proposed amendments to the State Constitution to the voters for approval or disapproval. All voters in the State are eligible to vote on these proposals. The questions as they will appear on the ballot are shown below in boldface type. Background information provided by the Legislative Council Service is provided here following each question.

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT 1

"PROPOSING TO AMEND THE CONSTITUTION OF NEW MEXICO TO PROVIDE THAT THE PUBLIC REGULATION COMMISSION CONSISTS OF THREE MEMBERS APPOINTED BY THE GOVERNOR FROM A LIST OF PROFESSIONALLY QUALIFIED NOMINEES SUBMITTED TO THE GOVERNOR BY A NOMINATING COMMITTEE AS PROVIDED BY LAW AND THAT THE COMMISSION IS REQUIRED TO REGULATE PUBLIC UTILITIES AND MAY BE REQUIRED TO REGULATE OTHER PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANIES."

SUMMARY of Proposed Constitutional Amendment 1: Constitutional Amendment 1 would amend Article 11, Section 1 of the Constitution of New Mexico to reduce the number of Public Regulation Commission (PRC) members to three, with no more than two members from the same political party. Members would no longer be elected, but instead would be appointed for six-year terms by the governor, with the consent of the senate, from a list of nominees submitted to the governor through a newly established Public Regulation Commission Nominating Committee. Constitutional Amendment 1 would also amend Article 11, Section 2 of the Constitution of New Mexico to narrow the scope of the PRC's constitutionally granted regulatory powers to public utilities, while still allowing the legislature to assign responsibility for the regulation of other public service companies to the commission by law.

BACKGROUND AND INFORMATION: The PRC is a state regulatory authority created by a constitutional amendment passed by New Mexico voters in 1996. At its inception, the PRC was the result of a merger of the State Corporation Commission, which was responsible for regulating corporations, insurance, telecommunications, railroads and motor carriers, and the New Mexico Public Utility Commission, the entity that was responsible for regulating electric, gas and water utilities. The merger became effective on January 1, 1999, resulting in the formation of a state regulatory body with authority over a broad spectrum of activities and industries within the state. In 2012, the constitutional provisions creating and establishing the jurisdiction of the PRC were again amended. One amendment removed the PRC's authority to charter and regulate corporations and transferred authority to charter corporations to the secretary of state. A second amendment removed the regulation of insurance companies and others engaged in the assumption of risk from the PRC and placed it under a superintendent of insurance. A third amendment required the legislature to provide increased qualifications and continuing education requirements for public regulation commissioners.

The work of the PRC is conducted by the commissioners through meetings and hearings and in large part through operational units, including the Utility Division, Transportation Division, Consumer Relations Division, Legal Division and Fire Marshal Division. Even after enactment of the 2012 amendments, the jurisdiction of the PRC remains broad.

The PRC is composed of five commissioners, each representing a district of the state determined by statute and redrawn each decennial census in the same manner and at the same time as legislative and congressional districts. Commissioners serve staggered four-year terms and receive annual salaries of \$90,000, as provided in statute. After serving two terms, a member is not eligible to hold office as a commissioner again until one full term has intervened. Vacancies occurring during the term of a commissioner are filled by appointment by the governor.

Under current law, an individual is eligible to serve as a commissioner on the PRC if the commissioner is at least 18 years of age, has lived in the state for at least one year, resides in the district from which he or she is elected, has no felony convictions and meets certain professional qualifications, including satisfaction of continuing education requirements, as provided by law.

ARGUMENTS FOR:

1. May allow for increased focus on ratepayer interests. An elected commission is a political commission, and the PRC may be even more so because its members are elected to represent specific districts in the state. When elected members represent districts instead of the entire state, their focus may be on regional electoral politics rather than the interests of ratepayers throughout the state. By insulating the commission from electoral politics, the commissioners may be better able to carry out their quasi-judicial duties in an unbiased fashion.

2. Offers an opportunity to renew public trust. The PRC has suffered from controversy and lack of public trust throughout its existence, some of which can be attributed to the nature of electoral politics, whereby candidates may be elected based more on name recognition and political advertisements than on professional qualifications and technical expertise. The proposed amendment would provide for increased vetting of commissioners through the establishment of a Public Regulation Commission Nominating Committee that evaluates potential nominees and submits their names to the governor for appointment, followed by senate confirmation of those appointees. This process would insulate the selection of commissioners from the political process and better ensure that well-qualified individuals are chosen to serve on the PRC, resulting in a renewal of public trust in the PRC.

3. New Mexico would join the vast majority of states that regulate utilities through governor-appointed commissions, including the neighboring states of Colorado, Utah and Texas. If this amendment is adopted, New Mexico would be following the lead of 38 other states that provide for governor-appointed utility regulation commissions. Given the highly complex and technical nature of public utility regulation, it makes sense that commissioners should be selected on the basis of knowledge and expertise, rather than political considerations. Moreover, the double-vetting process and staggered six-year terms required by this amendment should help ensure that only well-qualified individuals are considered for appointment to the PRC, while preventing governors from packing the commission with political appointees.

4. Promotes a better understanding of the legal complexities inherent in regulating utilities. The PRC is a quasi-judicial body, and as such, it is critical that commissioners know and understand the law and the specifics of the subject areas they regulate. However, too often the New Mexico Supreme Court has overruled PRC decisions, resulting in costs to the state and sometimes calling into question the PRC's understanding of or regard for the legal complexities inherent in regulating the state's utilities. Improved screening and qualification requirements would help ensure that commissioners possess the experience and training necessary to make decisions within the complex legal framework that governs public utility regulation.

ARGUMENTS AGAINST:

1. Does not address recommended changes to the PRC that may better address the efficient functioning of the commission. The key to the efficient functioning of the PRC may not necessarily lie with the manner in which commissioners are appointed. In fact, a study by the National Regulatory Research Institute (NRRI) commissioned by the legislature in 2017 offered several recommendations to improve PRC operations. Those recommendations included establishing stable funding through the fees and assessments collected by the PRC from regulated industries as is the practice in most states, increasing staff salaries to attract and keep highly skilled engineers, accountants, economists, lawyers and other professional staff that are necessary to efficiently conduct rate cases, draft rules and advise the commissioners and increasing opportunities for staff to receive ongoing training and professional development. The proposed amendment does not address any of the many recommendations that could more effectively improve the PRC's operations.

2. Does not change how the PRC actually functions. As noted above, the provisions of this amendment assume that any problems with the current PRC are related to the fact that it is an elected body. The amendment, however, leaves it up to the legislature to provide for how commissioners will be evaluated and what qualifications commissioners will be required to have. Under current law, the legislature already has the power to set qualifications and continuing education requirements for commissioners. It also has the power to address all of the issues raised by the 2017 NRRI report to the legislature. There is no guarantee that the legislature will appropriately fund the PRC to address the issues raised in the 2017 report simply because the commissioners are appointed rather than elected.

3. Removes the electorate's ability to directly hold commissioners accountable for their actions. Removing voters' power to directly elect commissioners dilutes the power of the electorate by transferring that decision-making authority to the Public Regulation Commission Nominating Committee, governor and senate. Electing commissioners from their respective districts allows members of the public more direct oversight of their commissioners and the decisions those commissioners make. Removing the power to elect the commissioners by district may result in reduced geographical representation because appointed commissioners could reside anywhere in the state. Even if the commissioners were appointed from different regions of the state, each commissioner would necessarily represent more persons and a larger geographic area than under the current system.

4. Changing the removal process for commissioners may result in delayed proceedings. The proposed amendment provides that a commissioner may be removed "for accepting anything of value from a person or entity whose charges for services to the public are regulated by the commission, malfeasance, misfeasance or neglect of duty," but a commissioner may only be removed by impeachment. Pursuant to Article 4, Section 35 of the Constitution of New Mexico, impeachment can only be exercised by a majority of the members of the house of representatives and must be followed by a trial in the senate. Thus, impeachment of a commissioner may only occur when the legislature is convened in session or called into a special or extraordinary session, possibly delaying hearings required to respond to a serious allegation against a serving commissioner. Currently, the Constitution of New Mexico provides to the New Mexico Supreme Court the jurisdiction to remove a commissioner for cause, which may provide for a more timely response.

NEW MEXICO CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT 2

"PROPOSING TO AMEND ARTICLE 20, SECTION 3 OF THE CONSTITUTION OF NEW MEXICO TO PERMIT THE ADJUSTMENT BY LAW OF TERMS OF NONSTATEWIDE ELECTED OFFICERS AND TO STANDARDIZE THE DATE AN OFFICER BEGINS TO SERVE."

SUMMARY of Proposed Constitutional Amendment 2: Constitutional Amendment 2 proposes to amend Article 20, Section 3 of the Constitution of New Mexico to allow the legislature to adjust the term of a state, county or district officer to align or stagger the election of officers for a particular state, county or district office throughout the state. No statewide elective office would be subject to adjustment. The proposed amendment also clarifies that officers elected to fill a vacancy in office shall take office on the first day of January following their election.

BACKGROUND AND INFORMATION: Statutory provisions that would have had the effect of lengthening or shortening the terms of office of certain elected officers were declared unconstitutional in *State ex rel. Sugg v. Toulouse Oliver*, 2020-NMSC-002. If approved, this amendment would address the court's concerns and require a legislative finding that any adjustment to align or stagger the terms of a state, county or district officer is only to provide for consistency in the timing of elections for that office or to balance the number of offices appearing on the ballot in the election.

ARGUMENTS FOR:

1. Provides the legislature with the constitutional authority to ensure uniformity of elections and balance the number of offices on the ballot. This constitutional amendment is a natural and necessary extension of the legislature's intent demonstrated by the passage of House Bill 407 (2019). This law changed and updated numerous provisions throughout the Election Code to standardize the election dates for certain elected officials and balance out the number of county and district officers on the ballot in any given election year. In a legal case that followed the passage of this law, the New Mexico Supreme Court ultimately held, in part, that if the legislature wishes to alter the election dates of officers whose terms are enumerated in the constitution for the purpose of ensuring uniformity, this must be first permitted through a constitutional amendment. This amendment would effectively amend the Constitution of New Mexico to allow for the enforcement of those statutory provisions.
2. Provides the legislature with a tool to address election cycle concerns without requiring individual constitutional amendments for each office. Without this constitutional amendment, if the legislature determines that it is necessary to change the election cycle in which a state, county or district officer is elected to provide for consistency in the timing of elections for that office or to balance the number of offices appearing on the ballot, the legislature must first pass and the voters must adopt a constitutional amendment for each relevant office. The legislature is prohibited from extending or shortening the terms of constitutional officers to stagger or align them on the same ballot in the same election year without a constitutional amendment being presented to and adopted by the voters. If stand-alone constitutional amendments must be adopted to address these election cycle concerns, the one-time adjustments to the terms of individual offices in the constitution will clutter the constitution with provisions that are temporal in nature, which is antithetical to the enduring nature of constitutions. This proposed constitutional amendment, however, would allow the legislature to adjust the number of offices on the presidential or gubernatorial general election ballot without needing to propose a constitutional amendment for each relevant office, thus allowing the legislature to expediently address these election concerns when they arise and preventing the constitution from being filled with temporary provisions.
3. Includes protections against legislative overreach in amending terms of certain elected officers. The proposed amendment protects against legislative overreach in arbitrarily changing the terms of certain elected officers by requiring the legislature to adopt specific legislative findings supporting an adjustment. In order for the legislature to make an adjustment, the legislature must find that the adjustment is necessary for consistency in the timing of elections for that office or to balance the number of offices appearing on the ballot. This requirement is unique and requires a level of deliberateness and intention by the legislature. The proposed amendment also limits the reach of any law by limiting a one-time adjustment to two years. This limitation effectively adjusts a term no more than necessary to accomplish the desired alignment. Further, persons elected to affected offices are protected and not penalized. In running for a second term for an office, if the person's first term is extended, the extended term is only to be counted as one term, and a shortened term is not to be considered a term for the purposes of any limitation on the number of terms an officer may serve.

4. Addresses election cycle issues and increases efficiency. Balancing the number of contests appearing on a ballot during alternating election cycles and implementing a standardized start date for all newly elected officers may help alleviate issues created by an overloaded or long ballot and increase efficiency in the state's administration of elections and training. An overloaded or long ballot may result in longer lines at the ballot box and voter fatigue when there are "too many" offices up for grabs. A more balanced ballot could provide voters with a better opportunity to educate themselves about the candidates and their positions, and therefore make more informed choices. A balanced ballot could also create the perception among voters that there is an equal number of important races during alternating election cycles, thereby increasing voter turnout. In addition, balancing the number of contests appearing on a ballot between election cycles and implementing a standardized start date for all newly elected officers may increase efficiency by allowing the state to plan for, organize and carry out the election and training of statewide and nonstatewide officers at the same time.

ARGUMENTS AGAINST:

1. Expands the legislature's constitutional power over election policy and requires use of legislative findings that are not typical of constitutional provisions. The proposed amendment expands the legislature's constitutional power over election policy issues and could be legally challenged. It requires a legislative finding that an adjustment is necessary "to provide for consistency in the timing of elections for that office or to balance the number of offices appearing on the ballot." While this provides some guidance, it may allow the legislature to amend terms for other reasons as long as the finding states that it is meant to provide for consistency or balance. This possibility for other motivating reasons demonstrates that the finding requirement may not be as exacting as it may appear. Furthermore, this finding requirement does not exist in any other provision of the Constitution of New Mexico and is generally at odds with legislative style.
2. May not be narrowly tailored to address the problem the proposed constitutional amendment is trying to solve. There are a small number of state, county and district positions throughout the state that may need to be aligned on the same ballot or staggered in different election cycles. The proposed constitutional amendment may be overly broad and not sufficiently tailored to address the problem it is trying to solve. The constitutional amendment does not address only those offices that are in need of being aligned or staggered on the presidential or gubernatorial general election ballots, but it gives the legislature broad discretion to change the election cycle in which a state, county or district officer is elected, provided that the legislature includes the required finding in the legislation that adjusts the election cycles.
3. Shortening or lengthening of terms may be inequitable. As a result of this amendment, some incumbent officeholders will gain an extra two years in office, while others will serve terms that expire two years early for reasons unrelated to their performance. Incumbents seeking reelection after a shortened term could be disadvantaged by the adjustment because they will have had only two years in office to accomplish their goals, gain constituent support and prepare for a reelection campaign. Additionally, during the period when election cycles are being synchronized, term limits will not apply to the affected offices. At the time of an election, voters elect candidates and candidates run for office with the expectation that the winner will serve a four-year term and that term limits will apply. Whether an incumbent's term is shortened or extended, the end result may implicate the democratic process and may be inequitable to both voters and officeholders because it occurs retroactively after the officer has been elected. This amendment may undermine their expectations and act against their interests.
4. Benefits to voters are unclear. Proposed changes to election policy require careful scrutiny; in particular, assessing whether and how the changes would affect voters' ability to participate in the election process. This amendment does not provide any clear benefit to voters. Whether all New Mexico voters are scheduled to vote for their county or district officers during the same election cycle serves no purpose for voters. The residents of a county or a district are the only voters who are eligible to participate in an election for officers of the county or district, and are, therefore, unaffected by the outcomes of corresponding contests held in other parts of the state. Without evidence that the existing election cycle distribution burdens voters, there is no clear justification for a constitutional amendment that would allow a change to the status quo.

General Election 2020

General Obligation Bonds and Taxes

(Background Information provided by the NM Department of Finance and Administration.)

Background: A bond represents a debt for money borrowed by a government to finance capital improvement projects. The State of New Mexico promises to repay the amount borrowed, plus interest, over a period of time for each General Obligation Bond that is approved by voters. The bonds are called "General Obligation" because payment of the debt service (principal plus interest) is a general obligation of the State and its property owners through property taxation. According to the Board of Finance Division of the NM Department of Finance and Administration, the specific amount of property taxes collected in a given year is attributable to a number of factors, including the amount of debt service required for existing General Obligation bonds, the projected debt service required for the new bond issue, the latest assessed valuation of net taxable property, cash balances in bond debt service accounts, the date of issuance, and the actual interest rate obtained on the bond sale. Based on the assumption that all three bond issues will be passed by voters, the property tax year 2020 mil levy has been set at 1.36 mils, which is the same as the 2018 and 2019 rates. The State Board of Finance estimates that over a ten-year period, the three issues on the ballot would cost approximately \$10.99 per \$100,000 of asset value. Of the annual average \$10.99, Bond Issue A accounts for \$1.83, Bond Issue B accounts for \$0.54, and Bond Issue C accounts for \$8.62.

STATE BOND QUESTIONS

2020 Capital Projects General Obligation Bond Act

The New Mexico Legislature passed the 2020 Capital Projects General Obligation Bond Act detailing projects that would be funded by these bonds. No bonds will be issued or sold under the act until the state's registered voters have voted upon and approved the bonds. Each bond is voted upon separately with a "For" or "Against" question.

Summary: The three 2020 bond issues ask for voter approval to issue general obligation bonds as follows:

Bond Issue A, in an amount not to exceed \$33,292,141 to make capital expenditures for certain senior citizen facility improvements, construction, and equipment acquisition projects;

Bond Issue B, in an amount not to exceed \$9,751,433 to make capital expenditures for academic, public school, tribal, and public library resource acquisitions; and

Bond Issue C, in an amount not to exceed \$156,358,475 to make capital expenditures for certain higher education, special schools, and tribal schools capital improvements and acquisitions.

The total for all three questions, including bond issuance costs, is \$199,402,049. A complete breakdown of the designated projects under each bond issue can be found on the New Mexico Legislature's website: <https://www.nmlegis.gov/Sessions/20%20Regular/final/SB0207.pdf>.

Bond Question A - Aging and Long-Term Services Department

The 2020 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 thirty-three million two hundred ninety-two thousand one hundred forty-one dollars (\$33,292,141) 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?

For_____ Against_____

Bond Question B - Library Acquisitions

The 2020 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 nine million seven hundred fifty-one thousand four hundred thirty-three dollars (\$9,751,433) 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?

For_____ Against_____

Bond Question C - Higher Education

The 2020 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 fifty-six million three hundred fifty-eight thousand four hundred seventy-five dollars (\$156,358,475) 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?

For_____ Against_____

BERNALILLO COUNTY BOND QUESTIONS

Bernalillo County will ask voters to authorize the issuance of General Obligation bonds for the 2020 bond cycle (years 2021-2022) totaling \$40,550,000. The projects have been grouped according to their general purposes into six ballot questions. General Obligation Bonds are grouped by purpose so that voters have the option of approving one purpose and not another. Once approved, the bond funds must be used for the approved purpose only.

General Obligation (GO) Bonds and Taxes

A bond represents a debt of money borrowed by a government to generate revenue for and fund capital improvement projects. The government promises to repay the amount borrowed, plus interest, over a period of time. The bonds are called “General Obligation” because payment of the debt service (principal plus interest) is a general obligation of the county and its property owners. GO bonds require approval by the voters and are repaid from a portion of the property taxes. GO bonds must be sold within three years of voter approval, and must be fully spent on capital (bricks and mortar) projects, not on daily operations or maintenance, within four years of the bond sale. All projects slated for GO bond funding are included in Bernalillo County’s six-year Capital Improvement Plan. Because old bonds are retired as the new bonds are requested, passage of the bonds will generally not result in a property tax increase.

Bond Question No. 1. LIBRARY BONDS

Shall Bernalillo County, New Mexico, be authorized to issue its general obligation bonds, in one series or more, in an aggregate principal amount not exceeding \$2,250,000 for the purpose of acquiring property, planning, designing, upgrading, constructing, remodeling, furnishing, equipping and otherwise improving library facilities within Bernalillo County, New Mexico, and purchasing library materials and resources for the libraries within Bernalillo County, New Mexico, said bonds to be payable from general (ad valorem) taxes to be issued and sold at such time or times, upon such terms and conditions as the Board of County Commissioners may determine and as permitted by law?

Library Materials - ongoing books, e-books and materials acquisition	\$1,750,000
International District/Central Ave. Library - construction and books, e-books, media and materials acquisition	\$500,000

Bond Question No. 2. PUBLIC SAFETY FACILITIES, FLEET AND OTHER COUNTY BUILDINGS BONDS

Shall Bernalillo County, New Mexico, be authorized to issue its general obligation bonds, in one series or more, in an aggregate principal amount not exceeding \$13,450,000 for the purpose of acquiring property, planning, designing, upgrading, constructing, remodeling, equipping and otherwise improving, County facilities and fleet, including but not limited to health and public safety facilities, fire station and law enforcement facilities, jail and detention facilities, animal care facilities and youth and visitors centers, and necessary redevelopment of facilities, construction and improvements required by the Americans with Disabilities Act, said bonds to be payable from general (ad valorem) taxes and to be issued and sold at such time or times, upon such terms and conditions as the Board of County Commissioners may determine and as permitted by law?

Public Building Upgrades - systems upgrades, sustainability implementation measures and ADA compliance countywide - ongoing	\$3,500,000
Parking Lot Construction (fencing, lighting, surfacing) at demolished downtown ABQ jail site	\$800,000
Youth Service Center (YSC) Facility Improvements	\$1,600,000
Metropolitan Detention Center (MDC) Improvements Wastewater Vacuum System Design and Construction Upgrade	\$2,000,000
Tiny Home Village (THV) - photovoltaic array (purchase, install, equip)	\$200,000
Fire Station 36 (Dist. 1) (plan, design, demolish, reconstruct, furnish)	\$300,000
401 Roma (Public Safety Center) - New Roof and HVAC	\$1,000,000
South Valley Food Hub (SVEDC-RGCD) (plan, design, purchase, construct, equip)	\$550,000
2400 Broadway Campus (Public Works) Renovation - Phase 1	\$500,000
Heavy Equipment Replacement - ongoing	\$750,000
Bernalillo County Sheriff Office Fleet Vehicle Replacement - ongoing	\$650,000
Bernalillo County General Fleet Vehicle Replacement - ongoing	\$600,000
Animal Care Building Expansion (plan, design)	\$150,000
West Central Ave - Route 66 Visitor Center (design, construct, equip, furnish)	\$500,000
PB&J Building Remodel (plan, design, demolish, construct replacement)	\$350,000

Bond Question No. 3. PARKS AND RECREATION BONDS

Shall Bernalillo County, New Mexico, be authorized to issue its general obligation bonds, in one series or more, in an aggregate principal amount not exceeding \$16,800,000 for the purpose of acquiring property, planning, designing, upgrading, constructing, equipping and otherwise improving park and recreational facilities within the County, including but not limited to parks, aquatic centers, community centers, playgrounds, ball fields, open space, cultural facilities, community recreation centers and pools, and necessary redevelopment of facilities, construction and improvements required by the Americans with Disabilities Act, said bonds to be payable from general (ad valorem) taxes and to be issued and sold at such time or times, upon such terms and conditions as the Board of County Commissioners may determine and as permitted by law?

Paradise Hills Community Center - Building and Site Improvements	\$3,000,000
North Valley Aquatic Center - possibly @ Raymond G. Sanchez Community Center	\$3,500,000
Westside Community Center - Building and Site Improvements	\$3,000,000
Whispering Pines improvements	\$110,000
Park Redevelopment and Improvements - ongoing	\$250,000
Playground Redevelopment - ongoing	\$300,000
Little League Ball Fields Redevelopment - ongoing	\$300,000
ADA Upgrades for Parks and Recreation - ongoing	\$150,000
Community Center Redevelopment & Equipment - ongoing	\$200,000
Land Management Equipment - ongoing	\$300,000
Aquatics Facilities Redevelopment & Equipment - ongoing	\$100,000
Tom Tenorio Park Improvements	\$1,700,000
Swede Scholar Mesa del Sol Regional Recreation Complex Improvements and Additions	\$3,300,000
Mid North Valley Recreational Center AKA Sandia Ranch Aglife Center (North Edith, Sandia Ranch)	\$500,000
Alameda Medians Redevelopment	\$90,000

Bond Question No. 4. TRANSPORTATION BONDS

Shall Bernalillo County, New Mexico, be authorized to issue its general obligation bonds, in one series or more, in an aggregate principal amount not exceeding \$4,300,000 for the purpose of acquiring property, planning, designing, upgrading, constructing, equipping, repairing and otherwise improving transportation facilities within the County, including but not limited to roads and related non-motor vehicle pathways, bridges, traffic calming, guardrails, bike lanes, sidewalks, paving, landscaping, traffic signals and other street improvements, and necessary construction and improvements required by the Americans with Disabilities Act, said bonds to be payable from general (ad valorem) taxes and to be issued and sold at such time or times, upon such terms and conditions as the Board of County Commissioners may determine and as permitted by law?

Federal Match Requirements for the following road and trail projects - Alameda Drain Trail, Bridge Blvd Reconstruction, Rio Bravo/2nd St Intersection and Gap Widening, Isleta Blvd Reconstruction, Sunset Rd Reconstruction, Garduño Rd Storm Drain, Woodward Ave Improvements	\$2,000,000
PWD Roads/County Arterial Roads Improvements (paving, drainage, safety improvements)	\$300,000
Sunport Blvd Extension	\$1,500,000
PWD Roads/County Road projects - Holbrook St widening, District 3 Hawk Signal installation, Mountain Valley Rd repaving	\$500,000

BERNALILLO COUNTY BOND QUESTIONS

Bond Question No. 5. STORM DRAINAGE AND UTILITIES BONDS

Shall Bernalillo County, New Mexico, be authorized to issue its general obligation bonds, in one series or more, in an aggregate principal amount not exceeding \$2,250,000 for the purpose of acquiring property, designing, upgrading, constructing, equipping, repairing and otherwise improving utility infrastructure, including but not limited to storm sewer, wastewater, water, drainage and fiber optic systems and facilities within Bernalillo County, New Mexico, said bonds to be payable from general (ad valorem) taxes and to be issued and sold at such time or times, upon such terms and conditions as the Board of County Commissioners may determine and as permitted by law?

Federal Match Requirements for storm drainage components of the following road and trail projects: Alameda Drain Trail, Bridge Blvd Reconstruction, Rio Bravo/2nd St Intersection and Gap Widening, Isleta Blvd Reconstruction, Sunset Rd Reconstruction, Sunport Blvd Extension, Garduño Rd Storm Drain, Woodward Ave Improvements	\$2,250,000
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Bond Question No. 6. PUBLIC HOUSING BONDS

Shall Bernalillo County, New Mexico, be authorized to issue its general obligation bonds, in one series or more, in an aggregate principal amount not exceeding \$1,500,000 for the purpose of acquiring property, designing, upgrading, planning, constructing and equipping housing facilities within the County, including but not limited to energy efficiency and other improvements for multifamily housing units for low-income, homeless, senior and disabled populations, said bonds to be payable from general (ad valorem) taxes and to be issued and sold at such time or times, upon such terms and conditions as the Board of County Commissioners may determine and as permitted by law?

County Housing Consolidated Plan - Rental Occupied - El Centro and Seybold Village	\$500,000
Contribution to City of ABQ Gateway Center Homeless Facility.	\$1,000,000

SANDOVAL COUNTY GENERAL OBLIGATION BOND QUESTION

A bond represents a debt of money borrowed by a government to finance capital improvement projects. The government promises to repay the amount borrowed, plus interest, over a period of time. The bonds are called "General Obligation" because payment of the debt service (principal plus interest) is a general obligation of the county and its property owners. General Obligation bonds require approval by the voters. Because old bonds are retired as the new bonds are requested, passage of the bonds will generally not result in a property tax increase.

Bond Question No. 1. LIBRARY BONDS

Sandoval County General Obligation Library Bond Question

Shall Sandoval County be authorized to issue up to \$1,975,000 of general obligation bonds, to be paid from property taxes, for the purpose of purchasing library books and resources, including equipment, upgrades, and improvements for libraries?

Bonos de Obligación General del Condado de Sandoval Pregunta Sobre Bonos

¿Se autorizará al Condado de Sandoval a emitir hasta \$1,975,000 en bonos de obligación general, que se pagarán por medio de impuestos sobre la propiedad, con el propósito de comprar libros y recursos, incluyendo equipos, actualizaciones y mejoras para las bibliotecas?

ALBUQUERQUE METROPOLITAN ARROYO FLOOD CONTROL AUTHORITY

Description: AMAFCA owns and maintains 69 miles of channels, both improved and natural, nine miles of underground facilities, and seven miles of dikes and diversion structures. AMAFCA also owns and maintains 35 flood control dams throughout the greater Albuquerque area, and a number of storm water quality facilities. AMAFCA controls more than 4,000 acres within its boundaries, much of which is made available for joint use such as bike trails, recreational fields, equestrian areas, hang glide landing areas, open space, wildlife habitat, and golf courses.

BALLOT QUESTION:

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

“Evolution of democracy is not possible if we are not prepared to hear the other side.”

– Mahatma Gandhi

VOTER GUIDE 2020

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Information Sources: New Mexico Secretary of State's Office, New Mexico Legislative Council Services, Board of Finance Division of the New Mexico Department of Finance and Administration, Administrative Office of the Courts, Bernalillo County Clerk's Office, Sandoval County Clerk's Office, Torrance County Clerk's Office, Valencia County Clerk's Office, Bernalillo County Attorney, Albuquerque Metropolitan Arroyo Flood Control Authority, Bernalillo County Bureau of Elections, Sandoval County Bureau of Elections

A few words about how we work...

The League of Women Voters of Central New Mexico is an educational non-profit organization dedicated primarily to non-partisan voter education. We are affiliated with the League of Women Voters of New Mexico which functions as a statewide advocacy organization supported by the four local leagues of Central New Mexico, Los Alamos, Santa Fe, and Southern New Mexico. The League of Women Voters never supports or opposes candidates. We do advocate before the appropriate governing body on issues. This year the LWV leagues in New Mexico have put together an online statewide Voter Guide called Vote411. Using software developed by the LWV of the U.S., we ask candidates to enter their answers to a series of questions. No one at the Leagues edits or alters their answers in any way. The only restriction we impose is a word limit for answers. This guide is published to assist voters in learning about candidates, constitutional amendments and bond questions on their ballot. The work is done completely by volunteers. If you would like to support the League of Women Voters of Central New Mexico, please donate at our website at lwvcnm.org.

"The only title in our democracy that is superior to that of President is that of citizen."

*– Louis Brandeis,
Supreme Court Justice*

Mission

The League of Women Voters, a nonpartisan political organization, encourages informed and active participation in government, works to increase understanding of major public policy issues, and influences public policy through education and advocacy.

Vision, Beliefs, and Intentions

The goal of the League of Women Voters is to empower people to shape better communities worldwide. We are a nonpartisan political membership organization. The League never supports or opposes any political party or candidate. However, the League does take action in supporting or opposing government issues.

We:

- act after study and member agreement to achieve solutions in the public interest on key community issues at all government levels.
- build citizen participation in the democratic process.
- engage communities in promoting positive solutions to public policy issues through education and advocacy.

We believe in:

- respect for individuals.
- the value of diversity.
- the empowerment of the grassroots, both within the League and in communities.
- the power of collective decision-making for the common good.

We will:

- act with trust, integrity, and professionalism.
- operate in an open effective manner to meet the needs of those we serve, both members and the public.
- take the initiative in seeking diversity in membership.
- acknowledge our heritage as we seek our path to the future.

To Donate to the League of Women Voters of Central New Mexico: www.lwvcnm.org
If this guide helped in making your decisions, please consider joining our organization.

LWVCNM Membership Application

The membership year for LWVCNM is October 1 to September 30. Join anytime. For those joining during the membership year, dues will be prorated at the October 1 renewal time.

With membership in the local LWVCNM, you also belong to the state LWVNM and the national LWVUS.

Yes! I want to join LWVCNM, LWVNM and LWVUS! The first membership in a household costs \$60. Add \$30 for each additional membership in a household at the same address. Student dues are \$1. Make check payable to LWVCNM.

(Please note: Dues are subject to change based on a vote by the full membership at our Annual Meeting. When in doubt, contact our office to confirm amounts.)

Mail to: **LWVCNM Membership, 2501 San Pedro NE, Suite 216, Albuquerque, NM 87110-4122.**

Name(s) _____

Phone (H) _____ (C) _____

Address _____

E-Mail _____

City/Zip _____

I do not want to join the League, but I would like to contribute to the LWVCNM in support of future Voter Guides. Make check payable to LWVCNM.

For more information, call LWVCNM office at 884-8441.
Membership dues and contributions to LWVCNM are tax deductible.

In Appreciation - 2020 Voter Guide

**Thank you to our friends of the
League of Women Voters of Central New Mexico.
We appreciate your support of our educational efforts.**

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