



# Candidate Evaluation Survey Report

State of New Mexico Primaries

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Prepared by [Indivisible Nob Hill](#)

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## Overview

This report outlines the results of the questionnaires sent to primary candidates of the state and federal elections of 2018. Candidates may use the information in this report as outlined in the Candidates Use guidelines section.

This report is based on only a few important progressive questions. Therefore the information in this report should not be considered a sole source to make a voting decision. Voters should consider other sources as well.

## Methods

Seven Indivisible Nob Hill members formed a committee in January 2018 to start the process of designing and enacting a candidate questionnaire for all candidates running for nine offices in 2018: Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Secretary of State, State Treasurer, Attorney General, State Commissioner of Public Lands, US House of Representatives CD-1 and the US Senate. Eleven categories for questions were selected then multiple questions were written for each category. Final questions were edited and accepted by committee consensus.

On March 13th, 41 candidates approved by the Secretary of State, were sent a questionnaire containing questions pertinent to their races. We received 19 responses from candidates before the April deadline.

## Table of Candidates responding to survey

	Office	Candidate	Responses included in this report?
1	Governor	Michelle Lujan-Grisham	Received late - not rated, responses posted on indivisblenobhill.com only
2	Governor	Jeff Apodaca	Yes
3	Governor	Joe Cervantes	No response received
4	Governor	Steve Pearce	No response received
5	Governor	Joe Cervantes	No response received
6	Governor	Bob Walsh	No response received
7	Lieutenant Gov.	Michelle Garcia Holmes	No response received

8	Lieutenant Gov.	Jeff Carr	No response received
9	Lieutenant Gov.	Billy Garrett	Yes
10	Lieutenant Gov.	Howie Morales	Yes
11	Lieutenant Gov.	Robin Dunn	No response received
12	Lieutenant Gov	Rick Miera	Yes
13	Secretary of State	Maggie Toulouse Oliver	Yes
14	Secretary of State	Johanna Cox	No response received
15	Secretary of State	Sandra Jeff	No response received
16	State Auditor	Wayne Johnson	No response received
17	State Auditor	Brian Colon	Yes
18	State Auditor	Bill McCamley	Yes
19	State Treasurer	Tim Eichenberg	No response received(1) <sup>1</sup>
20	State Treasurer	Arthur Castillo	Yes
21	Attorney General	Hector Balderas	Yes
22	Attorney General	Michael Hendricks	No response received
23	Attorney General	A.Blair Dunn	No response received
24	Commissioner of Public Lands	Pat Lyons	No response received
25	Commissioner of Public Lands	Stephanie Garcia Richards	Yes
26	Commissioner of Public Lands	Garrett VeneKlasen	Yes
27	Commissioner of Public Lands	Michael Lucero	No response received
28	Commissioner of Public Lands	George Munoz	No response received
29	US Senate	Martin Heinrich	No response received
30	US Senate	Mich Rich	No response received

<sup>1</sup>Per his response, Tim Eichenberg did not respond to the survey due to conflicts of interest with Board positions.

31	US Senate	Aubrey Dunn	No response received
32	H of R-CD-1	Pat Davis	Yes
33	H of R-CD-1	Deb Haaland	Yes
34	H of R-CD-1	Damian Lara	Yes
35	H of R-CD-1	Damon Martinez	Yes
36	H of R-CD-1	Paul Moya	Yes
37	H of R-CD-1	Antoinette Sedillo Lopez	Received late - not rated, responses posted on indivisblenobhill.com only
38	H of R-CD-1	Janice Arnold-Jones	Yes
39	H of R-CD-1	Lloyd Princeton	Yes
40	H of R-CD-1	Bob Liebman	No response received
41	H of R-CD-1	Jesse Heitner	Yes

Five surveys were sent to 93 INH members during the week of April 12 to April 16, 2018 as follows.

**Survey 1**- Secretary of State, State Auditor, and Attorney General

**Survey 2** - Treasurer and Land Commissioner

**Survey 3** - Governor and Lt Governor

**Survey 4** - Questions 1-5 for House of Representatives CD 1

**Survey 5** - Questions 6-10 for House of Representatives CD 1

Candidates were not identified by name in the survey's sent to the members. The candidate's responses were reviewed by each survey respondent based on three criteria:

1. **Ideology:** answer demonstrates an understanding of progressive values.
2. **Knowledge:** answer demonstrates a depth of understanding of the issues/subject.
3. **Actionable Solutions:** answer demonstrates what they will do and how they will do it. Look for specifics relating to the question asked.

Each criterion was given an rating of 'poor, good or excellent' by the INH members responding to the surveys. Responses were developed using a weighted average across all responses.

## Summary Results

Below are the summary results across all questions asked of the candidates for each of the three criteria. Ratings can be interpreted as follows

0-1 - poor

1-2- good

2-3- excellent

### Governor

<b>Candidate</b> <b>0-1= Poor, 1-2=Good, 2-3=Excellent</b>	<b>Ideology</b>	<b>Knowledge</b>	<b>Actionable solutions</b>	<b>Overall</b>
Jeff Apodaca	2.50	2.30	2.30	2,37

### Lt Governor

<b>Candidate</b>	<b>Ideology</b>	<b>Knowledge</b>	<b>Actionable solutions</b>	<b>Overall</b>
Howie Morales	2.67	2.56	2.37	2.53
Rick Miera	2.82	2.63	2.55	2.67
Billy Garrett	2.75	2.47	2.46	2.56

### Attorney General

<b>Candidate</b> <b>0-1= Poor, 1-2=Good, 2-3=Excellent</b>	<b>Ideology</b>	<b>Knowledge</b>	<b>Actionable solutions</b>	<b>Overall</b>
Hector Balderas	2.73	2.71	2.56	2.67

## Secretary of State

<b>Candidate</b> <b>0-1= Poor, 1-2=Good, 2-3=Excellent</b>	<b>Ideology</b>	<b>Knowledge</b>	<b>Actionable solutions</b>	<b>Overall</b>
Maggie Toulouse-Oliver	2.78	2.81	2.72	2.76

## Treasurer

<b>Candidate</b> <b>0-1= Poor, 1-2=Good, 2-3=Excellent</b>	<b>Ideology</b>	<b>Knowledge</b>	<b>Actionable solutions</b>	<b>Overall</b>
Arnold Castillo	2.25	2.17	1.93	2.12

## State Auditor

<b>Candidate</b> <b>0-1= Poor, 1-2=Good, 2-3=Excellent</b>	<b>Ideology</b>	<b>Knowledge</b>	<b>Actionable solutions</b>	<b>Overall</b>
Bill McCamley	2.64	2.54	2.49	2.54
Brian Colon	2.69	2.71	2.58	2.63

## Land Commissioner

<b>Candidate</b> <b>0-1= Poor, 1-2=Good, 2-3=Excellent</b>	<b>Ideology</b>	<b>Knowledge</b>	<b>Actionable solutions</b>	<b>Overall</b>
Stephanie Garcia-Richards	2.73	2.61	2.45	2.59
Garrett VeneKlasen	2.67	2.60	2.50	2.59

## House of Representatives - Congressional District 1

Candidate 0-1= Poor, 1-2=Good, 2-3=Excellent	Ideology	Knowledge	Actionable solutions	Overall
Damian Lara	2.58	2.40	2.22	2.40
Paul Moya	2.71	2.55	2.38	2.55
Pat Davis	2.88	2.84	2.73	2.82
Lloyd Princeton	2.04	1.81	1.54	1.80
Deb Haaland	2.91	2.90	2.73	2.84
Damon Martinez	2.48	2.28	1.99	2.25
Janice E Arnold Jones	1.65	1.57	1.41	1.54
Jesse Heitner	2.38	2.19	2.04	2.21

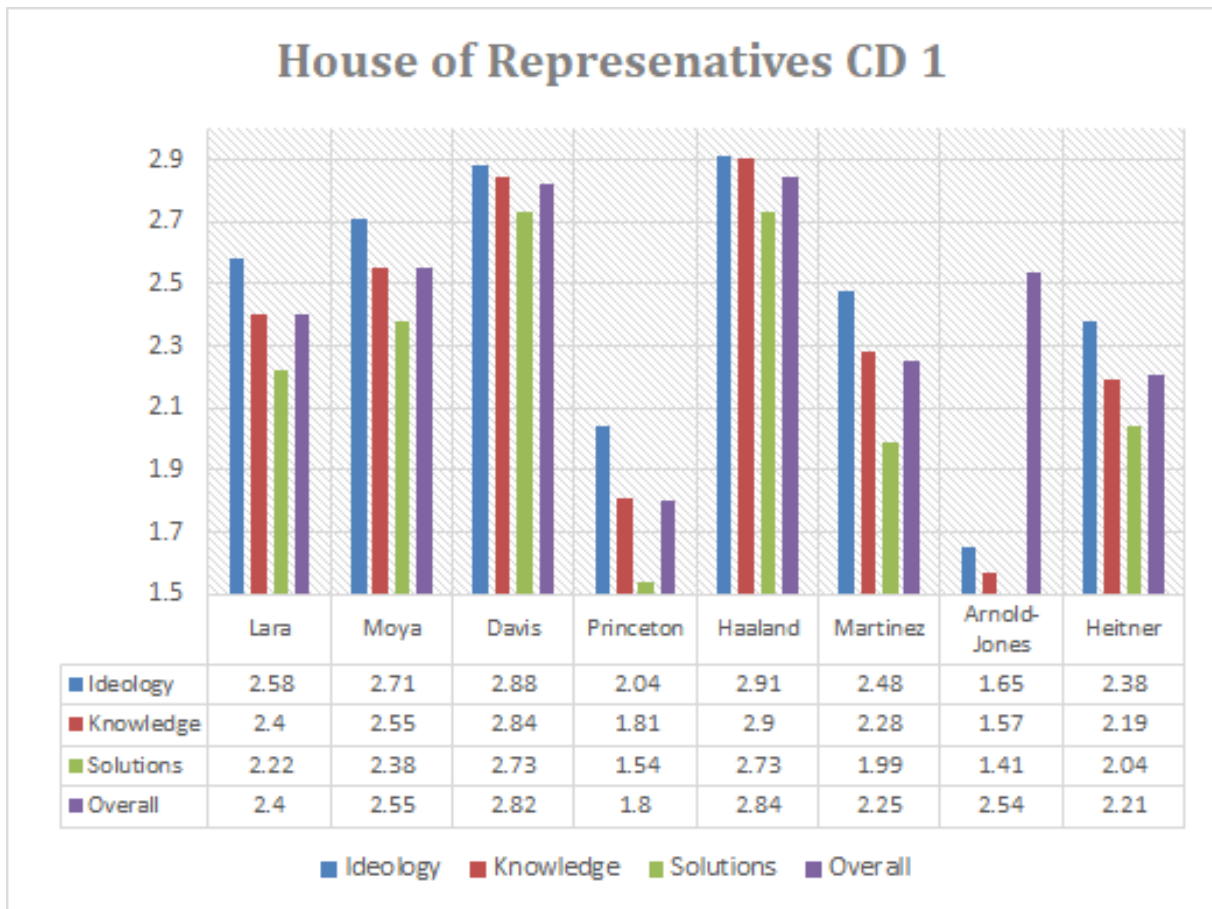


Figure 1 - Graphical Representation for CD 1



## Candidates Use Guidelines

Data in this report was developed for Indivisible Nob Hill members and the general public to help determine views of candidates as they align to Progressive ideologies. Candidates may reference ratings in their campaign materials only under these circumstances:

1. Candidates may reference their **own ratings**, but not the rating of their opponents either directly or indirectly.
2. References to ratings must include **all elements of the scale and the criteria**.
3. If referencing ratings on specific questions, The entire question text must appear along with the rating. **Summarization or truncating the question text asked is inappropriate.**
4. References must be accompanied by this sentence 'Indivisible Nob Hill does not endorse specific primary candidates. Ratings are provided for informational purposes only'. The sentence may appear as a footnote in the promotional materials.
5. References should not be made to 'Indivisible' but should instead reference Indivisible Nob Hill

Appropriate use	Inappropriate use
<p>'Indivisible Nob Hill rated me overall as 2.8 points out of 3 points on the criteria of 'quality of progressive solutions' (1)</p> <p>(1) Indivisible Nob Hill does not endorse specific primary candidates. Ratings are provided for informational purposes only</p>	<p>Indivisible rated me 2.8 on quality of progressive solutions but my opponent only received a rating of 2.4.</p>

# Appendix 1

## Detailed questions and Candidate Responses

Information in this appendix contains the candidates actual written response to each question presented. The ratings for each question represent the average of values for that specific criteria based on Indivisible Nob Hill members ratings.

## Governor - Respondent - Jeff Apodaca

### QUESTION 1:

How should our state and country ensure that all its members have access to adequate food, healthcare, and housing? What legislation/administrative actions have you proposed/supported/implemented to demonstrate that commitment?

### INH RATING of this Response

0-1= Poor, 1-2=Good, 2-3=Excellent

Ideology	Knowledge of topic	Quality of Solutions offered
2.52	2.48	2.33

### ANSWER: JEFF APODACA

We must recognize that the essentials of survival - food, healthcare, and housing - are fundamental human rights. It is our responsibility as a State and as fellow human beings to ensure that all New Mexicans have access to these essentials. For our most vulnerable people, this means there will always be a role for direct provision of food, healthcare, and housing through established government agencies.

This is why as Governor I will invest 5% or \$1.2 billion dollars of our \$23 billion investment fund into New Mexico small businesses which will create jobs expand economic growth for all New Mexicans.

My opponent has offered a lot of promises but few real proposals for the major change New Mexico needs to move from being last in poverty and unemployment.

I am the only candidate for Governor advocating for single-payer health care, like the New Mexico Health Security Act.

Rep. Lujan-Grisham is not a co-sponsor of HR 676 – Medicare for All. 121 other Democrats in Congress have co-sponsored it, but none of New Mexico's Representatives have done so. Every developed nation in the world has or is implementing universal health care. It's deeply troubling that New Mexico's leaders don't believe we deserve it.

It should be noted that Representative's reluctance to support single-payer health care may be a result of her financial ties to the insurance industry. During her career in Congress, Michelle Lujan-Grisham has received over \$146,000 in donations from insurance companies (Source: OpenSecrets.org <https://goo.gl/fHtc3U> ).

My published platform advocates for \$15 an hour living wages. This will be the best way to ensure food and housing is provided for everyone. Living wages also minimizes the gender pay gap. New Mexico women, especially low wage working women, earn only 85¢ for every dollar earned by a New Mexican man. Women of color are discriminated against even more. Latina women in New Mexico earn only 56¢ for every dollar earned by an Anglo man.

Rep. Lujan-Grisham's published platform only advocates for \$12 an hour minimum wages. These are poverty level wages. If the head of a household of four worked 40 hour weeks for 52 weeks (no vacations or days off), she or he would have earned only \$306 above the poverty line. Given that so many companies only offer 30 hour work weeks so they can avoid paying benefits, Lujan-Grisham's wage scale dooms all minimum wage working families to remain in poverty.

For people to move beyond the generational poverty that plagues our state, we must provide New Mexicans with opportunities for education and employment; two areas in which New Mexico has failed miserably. After 30 years of government experience, she has failed to prevent New Mexico from 50th.

Instead of offering the same old failed ideas, I will implement bold ideas to create the big change we need:

- Create 225,000 new jobs by investing 5% (over \$1 Billion) of our permanent trust funds in New Mexico.
- Job creation to allow a \$15 minimum wage.

To revamp our education system I will:

- Move 8% (\$225 million) of the PED budget back into the classroom.
- Fully fund early childhood education and family programs CYFD.
- Create multiple educational pathways to success, including bringing back trade skills, teaching computer coding, and mentorship programs for business careers in our schools.
- Equip educators with ongoing professional development training on the challenges of teaching students from impoverished communities and on breaking cycles of poverty.
- Fund after school programs and job training opportunities for all New Mexico middle and high school students to engage our youth in their future opportunities.
- Preserve and expand the lottery scholarship to ensure all New Mexico students can receive a college education or trade school program.
- Implement apprentice pathway programs within high schools and community colleges for trade skill, telecommuting, internships, online learning job opportunities, and other growing industries for our students to compete in a global economy.

## **QUESTION #2:**

Across the board, New Mexico tops the charts when it comes to violence against women. According to the Violence Poverty Report and the FBI, New Mexican women live in a state that

has the 10th highest rate of women killed by men and the 4th highest rate of rapes. New Mexico also ranks 3rd for frequency of sexual assaults and 1st for the highest number of untested rape kits per capita in the nation (source: Office of the State Auditor). As Governor, what steps would you take to address violence against women in New Mexico? Why do you think these specific efforts will be more successful than previous efforts?

### INH RATING of this Response

0-1= Poor, 1-2=Good, 2-3=Excellent

Ideology	Knowledge of topic	Quality of Solutions offered
2.71	2.62	2.57

### ANSWER: JEFF APODACA

The way women are treated in New Mexico is unacceptable.

Discrimination towards women is so entrenched in society that many factors must be addressed to rectify the gross injustice women face. The steps needed range from education to health and law enforcement interventions. Children model what they see and experience. I am an advocate for parenting support and mentorship programs beginning before birth, and I believe that these programs will provide role models for new parents by teaching how to empower and men with new attitudes.

The specific strategies I offer as Governor will be:

1. Restore the New Mexico Commission on Women. I will task this Commission to engage with both women who are survivors of violence, and men who have committed acts of violence, to address, assess, and recommend effective prevention and intervention strategies and resources so that New Mexico women do not live or work in fear of violence.
2. I will fight for equal pay for equal work for all New Mexican women, which will allow.
3. I will also work with the Public Education Department to teach consent beginning in elementary school and reinforced throughout middle and high school.
  - No means no
  - Maybe or hesitancy means no
  - Drug or Alcohol use means no
  - Goading, pressure or dares means no
4. I will instruct health, social studies and media classes to teach students skills to interpret and resist the sexualizing and objectification of women in media, social media and other cultural memes.
5. I have signed the New Mexico Nasty Women's Pledge to commit to equal representation by gender and race for my staff and cabinet.
6. I will ensure that our law enforcement agencies have the resources they need to clear the unacceptable backlog of untested rape kits, and to ensure that evidence is processed in a timely manner.

7. And as stated above, raising wages to at least \$15/hour will have a big impact towards leveling the financial playing field for women.

Business leaders and elected officials must be held to the highest standard of conduct. We've seen how the Chair of our Democratic Party and the Head of our Film Union have abused their power to harm women. Though both have been removed from office, they have been instrumental in building the power base for other candidates for Governor. We must not forget that many established Democrats have risen to power by answering to the wealthy elite that profit from the degradation of women.

While I fully support the Democratic Party and Secretary of State's stepped-up initiatives regarding training on sexual harassment, I recognize that training is only a deterrent for bad behavior, and not sufficient for prevention, which is why I have proposed the above.

### QUESTION #3:

Although New Mexico has made important strides toward equality and self-determination for its LGBT+ community, we continue to fall short without laws and policies protecting LGBT+ youth (i.e. prohibiting harassment and bullying of students and discrimination in schools based on a student's sexual orientation and gender identity) as well as LGBT+ inclusive healthcare (i.e. prohibiting insurance exclusions for transgender healthcare and providing transgender-inclusive health benefits to state employees). As Governor, what steps would you take to address these shortcomings and more broadly, to continue to strengthen state-level protections for LGBT+ New Mexicans?

### INH RATING of this Response

0-1= Poor, 1-2=Good, 2-3=Excellent

Ideology	Knowledge of topic	Quality of Solutions offered
2.43	2.29	2.24

### ANSWER: JEFF APODACA

I believe actions speak louder than words. My opponent for governor have made loud proclamations on their support for LGBTQ policies, but have also been embroiled in staff disputes with transgendered persons. Throughout my 30 years in the private sector, I have hired, and built opportunities for LGBT+ communities. As Governor I will do the same I never asked about they sexual identification, but when they came to me, I asked them to prepare a platform specifically addressing how to enshrine their rights into law. They told me that it needs to start with research because data on the LGBTQ+ population is lacking. Without it, we don't even have a baseline from which to measure our progress. My campaign will be releasing this platform in early April. Please check our website ( Apo18.com ) to download a copy.

The trust and initiative shown by my staff is the kind of workplace and social ease I'd like to model for all of New Mexico. As a businessperson, I know that that we must be inclusive if we want our best and brightest to come to or stay in New Mexico.

As Governor, I will support legislation to ensure that all New Mexicans receive fair opportunities and equal treatment in healthcare and human and civil rights protections.

- I will veto any anti-LGBTQ+ legislation sent to me by the legislature and publicly denounce national laws and policies eroding LGBTQ+ rights.
- I will ask the Departments of Health & Workforce Solutions to collect data for LGBTQ health and discrimination concerns.

**QUESTION #4:**

At the national level, we are witnessing increasing anti-immigrant sentiment and an inability to pursue bipartisan immigration reform. In response, states and cities around the U.S. have undertaken a myriad of efforts to address immigration and to balance competing economic, humanitarian, and security concerns for their communities. As Governor, what specific steps would you take and why?

**INH RATING of this Response**

0-1= Poor, 1-2=Good, 2-3=Excellent

Ideology	Knowledge of topic	Quality of Solutions offered
2.38	2.10	2.0

**ANSWER: JEFF APODACA**

New Mexico's culture is historically built upon immigration. As Governor, I will not turn my back on any resident of New Mexico. I will stand up to our President and fight for the rights of our DREAMers and all immigrants. I support those cities and communities which offer sanctuary to immigrants. Simultaneously, I will not welcome any person to our state who has committed a violent act, nor will I protect from deportation any immigrant who commits a serious crime or perpetrates a violent act.

I intend to have a round-table dialogue with organizations that work with, support, and represent the immigrant community to better understand how to eliminate barriers to their full and safe inclusion, and to identify and address bona-fide security and safety issues. Our State benefits when we enable immigrants to become contributing members of our communities.

**QUESTION #5:**

How will you protect public lands and national monuments for current and future generations of New Mexicans?

**INH RATING of this Response**

0-1= Poor, 1-2=Good, 2-3=Excellent

Ideology	Knowledge of topic	Quality of Solutions offered
2.57	2.33	2.43

**ANSWER: JEFF APODACA**

I will collaborate with Native Americans to ensure their sacred sites, public lands and monuments will be protected. And as Governor, we will immediately restore our air and precious water supply harmed by irresponsible extraction.

New Mexico's beauty is one of our State's greatest assets. The imperative to preserve and protect our public lands ethical as well as economic. While Utah and Colorado have figured out That ecotourism protects natural beauty while providing jobs and environmental education, New Mexico's current land commissioner has been selling our public lands at an unprecedented rate. I will work with the Land Commissioner and Legislature to invest in and promote eco-tourism and recreational opportunities, turning New Mexico into a destination for Bird Watching, River rafting, Hiking, and Film Industry & Historic sites Tourism.

Preserving wildlife habitat and ensuring sustainability of our open spaces is fundamental to a healthy ecosystem, and a healthy ecosystem is essential for productive those whose livelihoods depend on farming and ranching. Progressive rancher organizations that advocate for new models of grazing are an indication of competing interests finding new solutions.

As Governor I will stand against Donald Trump's and Sec. Zinke's efforts to sell off New Mexico public lands.

In New Mexico I will:

- Provide necessary funding to the Natural Heritage Conservation Act in order to receive the full federal match available for wildlife and wilderness conservation
- Reform the Fish & Game Commission so that there's a permanent voice advocating policies that are based on science and public environmental concerns.
- Provide supplemental funding to the Department of Game & Fish to take a holistic approach to wildlife management that also includes and protects non-game species.
- I also plan to invest \$1 Billion in renewable energy production in New Mexico. I've identified \$100 Million in state funds and \$200 Million in Federal grants that can be used for this purpose.
- I plan to collaborate with oil and gas companies to investment with us in wind/solar/geothermal energy. In both Texas and Colorado, the largest investors in renewable energy are oil and gas companies. With the state's investment of \$300 Million, I believe New Mexico will receive \$700 Million in private sector commitments. A key benefit of my plan is that the state will retain a 30% ownership stake in the energy produced. This new revenue stream will help diversify our economy as we move towards renewable energies.



**QUESTION #6:**

Have you accepted campaign contributions from the following industries? If so why and are you willing to give them back and pledge not to accept additional contributions?

- A. Fossil fuel industry?
- B. The pharmaceutical industry?
- C. The NRA or gun lobby?
- D. The tobacco industry?

**INH RATING of this Response**

0-1= Poor, 1-2=Good, 2-3=Excellent

Ideology	Knowledge of topic	Quality of Solutions offered
2.05	2.20	2.10

**ANSWER: JEFF APODACA**

- A. Fossil fuel industry? One donation from a local friend that owns gas stations in Albuquerque. No other Oil or Gas money has been accepted. Please note that
  - During her career in Congress, Michelle Lujan-Grisham has taken \$117,000 from energy and natural resource companies and their executives and PACs ( Source: OpenSecrets.org <https://goo.gl/fHtc3U> - scroll down to Sector Totals to view ).
  - PNM was her 5th largest individual contributor (Source: OpenSecrets.org <https://goo.gl/pQduch> ).
  - Since announcing for Governor, Michelle Lujan-Grisham has received over \$15,000 from oil and gas companies, 3 times more than Republican Steve Pearce. (Source: NM Political Report <http://nmpoliticalreport.com/796461/oil-and-gas-lobbyists-shell-out-big-money-in-campaign-donations/> )
- B. The pharmaceutical industry? - No
- C. The NRA or gun lobby? - No
- D. The tobacco industry? - No

**QUESTION #7:**

Our state has been heavily reliant on revenue from gas and oil.

1. What sectors of the economy would you focus on improving to help diversify our economy?
2. What are your ideas for developing those sectors?
3. What partnerships would you seek in developing those sectors?
4. What data do you have to support pursuing development of those sectors and how they improve job creation and provide living wages?

**INH RATING of this Response**

0-1= Poor, 1-2=Good, 2-3=Excellent

Ideology	Knowledge of topic	Quality of Solutions offered
2.48	2.24	2.10

**ANSWER: JEFF APODACA**

Earlier in this questionnaire I discussed my plans to invest 5% of the state's Permanent funds in New Mexico. For example, instead of investing in agriculture in Brazil like our permanent fund managers currently do, I will direct the board members I appoint to invest 5% of our \$23 Billion fund in New Mexico. My plan is to create low debt finance interest loans for existing New Mexico small businesses. This will create 75,000-100,000 new jobs in New Mexico and generate an additional tax revenue of over \$600 million a year. And it won't cost the state an extra dime because it's money that the state already invests in businesses outside New Mexico.

Areas of investment I'd like to focus on value added agricultural industries such as cannabis, hemp & hops production, as well as eco-tourism, biotechnology, biopharma, nanotechnology, cyber security, artificial intelligence, aerospace, medical tourism, tele-medicine, and invest \$1 billion dollars in renewable energies. There is no reason that New Mexico cannot excel and lead the nation in each of these areas if we support businesses through the investment loan program I've proposed.

For more complete details, please see my plan to Turn New Mexico Around:

<https://apo18.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/03/Apodaca-Economic-Plan-MC18.pdf>

**QUESTION #8:**

What does "common sense gun control" mean to you? What measures would you take to improve gun safety?

**INH RATING of this Response**

0-1= Poor, 1-2=Good, 2-3=Excellent

Ideology	Knowledge of topic	Quality of Solutions offered
2.76	2.62	2.62

**ANSWER: JEFF APODACA**

I am a father of two 9-year old boys. I hope that someday my children will grow up to follow the role models of the Parkland students who turned their school's tragedy into a platform for national action.

Over 26,000 American children & teens and have been killed by gun violence since 1999. Where have our politicians been? Like so many other problems faced by New Mexicans, our

leaders have simply failed to act. It's not rocket science. Every state and country that has strong gun safety laws has few or no children killed by guns.

Now that the children survivors have spoken up, many long time New Mexico politicians are getting vocal, but words are not enough. We need major change, not more political speeches. We need a combination of universal background competency, elimination of military style weapons, more funding for mental health treatment, better restorative justice programs in our schools, and support for Sen. Heinrich's repeal of the Dickey amendment prohibiting the CDC from conducting research on gun violence.

Specifically, here are the bold ideas I'll enact as Governor:

- Pass a comprehensive ban on military assault weapons, high capacity magazines and bump stocks. These are weapons designed for war and have no place being in our schools and communities. As a hunter, I am proud of our 2nd Amendment rights. It's not unreasonable to outlaw weapons of war.
- Pass legislation requiring background checks for all firearms purchases, starting with gun show loopholes, including information on restraining orders, mental health warnings, and criminal records. It is too easy for New Mexicans, and non-New Mexicans to purchase firearms without any oversight.
- Support repeal of the Dicky Amendment prohibiting the CDC from conducting research on gun violence.
- Implement full funding for mental health programs across the board, especially for those providing services to troubled young men at risk for violent behavior.
- Create Restorative Justice programs working with troubled youth in schools.
- Pass "Red Flag" laws, which allow concerned citizens to seek court orders to restrict or remove another citizen's access to firearms due to dangerous behavior.

#### **QUESTION #9:**

After the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) scrapped net neutrality rules last year, states and cities across the U.S. have led efforts to restore net neutrality and sought to insulate their communities from the effects of the FCC's repel. As Governor, how would you fight to ensure equal access to content for New Mexicans? Are there lessons to be learned from previous efforts in New Mexico and in other U.S. states?

#### **INH RATING of this Response**

**0-1= Poor, 1-2=Good, 2-3=Excellent**

<b>Ideology</b>	<b>Knowledge of topic</b>	<b>Quality of Solutions offered</b>
<b>2.38</b>	<b>2.24</b>	<b>2.19</b>

#### **ANSWER: JEFF APODACA**

Is it any wonder we're at the bottom in job creation and business climate when we just sit back and watch as more and more protections and services are ripped away?

Here are 4 steps that other States have implemented. As Governor I intend to follow their lead to:

1. Hold companies to their commitments not to block websites, throttle speeds, or impose prioritization pricing.
2. Leverage the state's power as a large purchaser of ISP and telecommunications services.
3. Hold companies accountable for warranties made to consumers.
4. Encourage new entrants into the currently concentrated ISP market.

#### QUESTION #10:

Trump's "\$1.5 trillion infrastructure plan" is really \$200 billion in federal funding that leaves state and local governments to cover 80% of project costs? How do you envision paying for infrastructure projects in New Mexico?

#### INH RATING of this Response

0-1= Poor, 1-2=Good, 2-3=Excellent

Ideology	Knowledge of topic	Quality of Solutions offered
2.43	2.24	2.24

#### ANSWER: JEFF APODACA

I will collaborate with our U.S Senators to make sure New Mexico is receiving its share of federal infrastructure funding, including Native American and state lands.

An additional option I will explore as Governor, is a publicly owned State Bank that will be geared toward infrastructure, renewable energy and medical cannabis/hemp production. The state has a \$4 Billion operating fund. If we deposit it our own finance authority instead of commercial banks, we will then have the ability to loan out up to 90% of our deposits. Potentially, this will yield up to \$3.6 Billion in funds we can loan to ourselves for infrastructure repair and development. Not only would New Mexicans reap the benefits of better infrastructure (like broadband in rural areas or bridge and road repairs), but we will also earn all the interest paid on these loans. Currently all the interest we pay for our road and capital improvement bonds is exported out of state by Wall Street and overseas banks.

Our infrastructure needs significant attention, with or without federal funding. We will evaluate and prioritize each infrastructure project, with our first criteria being the safety of New Mexicans.

### Lieutenant Governor - Respondent - Rick Miera

#### QUESTION 1:

How should our state and country ensure that all its members have access to adequate food, healthcare, and housing? What legislation/administrative actions have you proposed/supported/implemented to demonstrate that commitment?

### INH RATING of this Response

0-1= Poor, 1-2=Good, 2-3=Excellent

Ideology	Knowledge of topic	Quality of Solutions offered
2.84	2.79	2.79

#### ANSWER: RICK MIERA

First of all, it is imperative that we have a clear definition of “food”. The Trump budget proposed reducing the SNAP program by half and replacing it with a box consisting of “shelf- stable milk, ready-to-eat cereals, pasta, peanut butter, beans and canned fruit, vegetables, and meat, poultry or fish.” Although at the present time it does not appear that this will get through the US Senate, even if it passes in the House, this is very worrying. Those receiving food benefits are most in need of nutritious food, and cuts to SNAP or changes like this will be bad for aid recipients and ignores issues like food allergies, medical restrictions on diet, and food sensitivities. Real support for citizens include healthy choices for what they want and need in their diet. Attempting to impose restrictions on SNAP benefits will lead to negative health effects for those depending on supplemental nutrition to get by. I was a strong supporter in the Legislature of programs in our schools that required school lunches be nutritious and locally-sourced. I think that current programs, which incentivize the purchase of local produce, does so much not only to improve community health outcomes but also to support local producers and our local agricultural economies. I voted for the repeal of New Mexico’s food tax and have also voted to prevent this tax to be re-imposed, which would lead to negative effects for low-income families particularly.

I have been an active supporter of healthcare for all since 1993, when I introduced House Bill 794 – “Healthcare Insurance” – which passed both houses of the Legislature only to be vetoed by the Governor. I supported universal healthcare for all New Mexicans throughout my long tenure in the Legislature, and in an atmosphere of uncertainty surrounding the Affordable Care Act, it is more important than ever that New Mexico take care of its own citizens in the absence of leadership from the federal government.

I am personally working in programs to provide housing to folks in the Albuquerque community that are having difficulty housing themselves for various reasons. We are hopefully going to expand the reach of supportive housing for individuals who need behavioral health support as well as supportive housing for recently-released prisoners who need assistance reintegrating into society and support to avoid reoffending. Both of these programs are funded by the 1/8 cent sales tax. I am also involved with Bernalillo County’s attempt to create a Tiny Homes village to provide housing for homeless individuals regardless of a diagnosis of behavioral or mental health problems.

These are not enough. We need a variety of housing stock, from family housing to workforce housing and from urban development to rural community building.

The reason I am in favor of these programs is because I've seen them work. Our social safety net must be expanded, because New Mexicans are falling through the cracks. As a health professional I believe strongly in caring for the whole person – and that means ensuring that they receive proper nutrition, healthcare, and stability in their home life.

**QUESTION 2:**

Across the board, New Mexico tops the charts when it comes to violence against women. According to the Violence Poverty Report and the FBI, New Mexican women live in a state that has the 10th highest rate of women killed by men and the 4th highest rate of rapes. New Mexico also ranks 3rd for frequency of sexual assaults and 1st for the highest number of untested rape kits per capita in the nation (source: Office of the State Auditor). As Lieutenant Governor, what steps would you take to address violence against women in New Mexico? Why do you think these specific efforts will be more successful than previous efforts?

**INH RATING of this Response**

0-1= Poor, 1-2=Good, 2-3=Excellent

Ideology	Knowledge of topic	Quality of Solutions offered
2.85	2.75	2.40

**ANSWER:RICK MIERA**

As a therapist and counselor, I have worked with the most vulnerable members of our communities. Too often I was providing care to women traumatized by violence and abuse in their lives. Before we look at policy interventions that can help mitigate the violence, it is important to understand that many of these interventions do little but address the symptom. Any discussion of the ways to reduce violence against women is about the duty of men to educate themselves about consent so that we can address the fundamental problem of rape culture.

Our rape crisis centers and other resources for women experiencing violence and abuse are severely underfunded. The state needs to actively work to increase investment in these services and increase their reach in communities, including telemedicine that can provide services to patients that live in rural areas and have a harder time accessing these resources.

It is totally unacceptable that we have a backlog in the processing of rape kits in our communities. This is something that you simply have to throw money at until we are adequately protecting women who depend on these results to achieve justice. It is intolerable that we do not prioritize survivors of this horrendous form of sexual assault in our justice system, and we must do better.

Putting more police officers in our streets will do nothing to solve the problem if officers are not properly and regularly trained to recognize signs of abuse and take appropriate action. Sensitivity, engagement with the community, working on community-based policing rather than “broken-window” policing, can improve the profile of the police in our communities and ensure that they are truly protecting and serving those that depend on them to keep the peace.

We need to examine ways to better serve the most vulnerable among us. There is still a tremendous disparity between services for homeless men and homeless women, and additional risk and vulnerability as a homeless woman. We need to do more to protect trans women, especially trans women of color, who are disproportionately the target of gender-based assaults and murders.

And as far as how these will be any different than previous interventions – I do not believe that we have ever made a full-fledged effort to help the women who are suffering. It is completely appropriate that we prioritize this issue above many others, because women and children are suffering and dying as a result of our historical failure to make much change on this issue. We must ensure that we are doing all we can to expand accessibility of these programs to women all over this state, and I am committed to ensuring our communities are healthy in every way.

**QUESTION 3:**

Although New Mexico has made important strides toward equality and self- determination for its LGBT+ community, we continue to fall short without laws and policies protecting LGBT+ youth (i.e. prohibiting harassment and bullying of students and discrimination in schools based on a student’s sexual orientation and gender identity) as well as LGBT+ inclusive healthcare (i.e. prohibiting insurance exclusions for transgender healthcare and providing transgender-inclusive health benefits to state employees). As Lieutenant Governor, what steps would you take to address these shortcomings and more broadly, to continue to strengthen state-level protections for LGBT+ New Mexicans?

**INH RATING of this Response**

0-1= Poor, 1-2=Good, 2-3=Excellent

Ideology	Knowledge of topic	Quality of Solutions offered
2.9	2.9	2.75

**ANSWER:RICK MIERA**

Citizens have an absolute right to be secure in their persons at all times. This means ensuring that discrimination, hate speech, and prejudiced acts are specifically banned in our state. No one should be discriminated against based on sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression.

We need to make sure that our laws regarding discrimination are specific, honest, and fair. We do this by ensuring equal protection in legislation that cannot be circumvented by rule. These freedoms are non-negotiable, and I will fight to ensure we explicitly include these protections in legislation.

While in the Legislature, I introduced and passed an anti-bullying bill, 2011’s SB78, “School Bullying Prevention Programs” – and am committed to continuing to use my experience to support laws that protect students from bullying and harassment, regardless of the nature of the bullying/harassment. It is so important that we include enumerated categories that make it clear that abuse based on these categories, including sexual orientation, gender, and gender identity, is unlawful. We also need to work on solutions that include education on diversity and difference, because our children are not born prejudiced. We need to work on institutional solutions that destroy the lies and discrimination that have held back members of the LGBTQ2+ community for so long.

Transgender folks need full access to all the medical care they need to live life as their true selves. That means not only allowing them full access to the physical healthcare they need, but also to mental healthcare to counter the harmful effects of dysphoria, PTSD, and other traumas frequently more common to LGBTQ2+ individuals.

Healthcare for LGBTQ2+ folks also means actively working to tackle health disparities in health based on sexual orientation and gender expression. As a medical professional, I know it is so important that we work to dismantle the ways that privilege operates within our medical system to deprioritize members of historically marginalized groups, and specific interventions to reduce these disparities is long-overdue.

I am committed to bringing all stakeholders into a dialogue to develop grassroots, bottom- up, solution-based approaches to combating discrimination of all stripes.

**QUESTION 4:**

At the national level, we are witnessing increasing anti-immigrant sentiment and an inability to pursue bipartisan immigration reform. In response, states and cities around the U.S. have undertaken a myriad of efforts to address immigration and to balance competing economic, humanitarian, and security concerns for their communities. As Lieutenant Governor, what specific steps would you take and why?

**INH RATING of this Response**

0-1= Poor, 1-2=Good, 2-3=Excellent

Ideology	Knowledge of topic	Quality of Solutions offered
2.85	2.55	2.35



**ANSWER: RICK MIERA**

I believe that immigrants must be afforded the same basic rights to which every human being is entitled. Immigration reform is a question of human rights, pure and simple. Not only that, immigrant labor is the backbone of our American economy.

I do not support the cooperation of any branch of local law enforcement with ICE, and find immigration law enforcement to be objectionable at its core. From detention without due process in overcrowded detention centers to an extrajudicial court system that is not accountable to anyone but political appointees, we are failing our brothers and sisters when we allow their human rights to be violated and degraded in this way. We need to stop the demonization and scapegoating of immigrants. Hate speech is never acceptable.

We must take distinct action to address these issues on the front end. We need more accessible opportunities for individuals to become naturalized citizens. The vast majority of undocumented immigrants contribute to our economy, to our tax revenue, and to the cultural diversity of our communities. We need to welcome them to this land of opportunity, which should be a land of opportunity for all, not just those that were lucky enough to be born here.

I will work with the Governor, the Legislature and immigrant communities to convene a task force to work on immigrant human rights. The input and needs of our undocumented brothers and sisters should be at the core of efforts to tackle these pressing issues and improve the quality of life for all.

**QUESTION 5:**

How will you protect public lands and national monuments for current and future generations of New Mexicans?

**INH RATING of this Response**

0-1= Poor, 1-2=Good, 2-3=Excellent

Ideology	Knowledge of topic	Quality of Solutions offered
2.80	2.55	2.3

**ANSWER: RICK MIERA**

We must ensure that our public lands and national monuments are preserved for our children, our grandchildren, and their children after them. We protect our land by ensuring it is safe and accessible to the public. This includes not just aesthetics, but also pollution of all kinds, from litter to noise pollution.

I will work with the Land Commissioner, environmental groups, and local communities and jurisdictions to create policy that protects these jewels of New Mexico. Part of this is reserving

land for recreation, transitioning to a renewable standard of energy on state lands rather than relying on oil and gas, and ensuring that local ecosystems and wildlife are not harmed by any architectural or ecological interventions. We must ban fracking statewide, maintain public access to open streams. These are much more sustainable uses than allowing a few corporations to extract natural resources and destroy precious pieces of land that should be everyone's to access and enjoy in the future?

**QUESTION 6:**

Have you accepted campaign contributions from the following industries? If so why and are you willing to give them back and pledge not to accept additional contributions?

**INH RATING of this Response**

0-1= Poor, 1-2=Good, 2-3=Excellent

Ideology	Knowledge of topic	Quality of Solutions offered
2.90	2.84	2.84

**ANSWER: RICK MIERA**

Fossil fuel industry?

**ANSWER:**No

The pharmaceutical industry?

**ANSWER:** No

The NRA or gun lobby?

**ANSWER:** No

The tobacco industry?

**ANSWER:** No

**QUESTION 7:**

Our state has been heavily reliant on revenue from gas and oil.

What sectors of the economy would you focus on improving to help diversify our economy?

**INH RATING of this Response**

0-1= Poor, 1-2=Good, 2-3=Excellent

Ideology	Knowledge of topic	Quality of Solutions offered
2.75	2.85	2.7

**ANSWER: RICK MIERA** would focus on heavily investing in renewable energies, as well as legalizing and taxing recreational marijuana and hemp. We must concentrate on building up our small business sector and film economy, to support local growth that benefits New Mexicans. Incremental growth in these sectors can reap huge rewards and truly improve the quality of life of working New Mexicans.

**What are your ideas for developing those sectors?**

**ANSWER:**

I have in the past sponsored job training programs as well as supported continuing education. Part of transitioning our workforce to a diverse, well- functioning economy is ensuring everyone has the skills necessary to thrive in this new environment.

It is imperative that we as a state invest in job training programs to transition workers in the extractive industries to renewables or new sectors of living- wage manufacturing and retail jobs related to hemp and marijuana, and I would exercise all my experience and knowledge of our legislative process to ensure funding for these programs. But training is not enough. We must ensure that we are training people for the jobs of the future and connecting them with actual employers upon graduation.

But we cannot build a new economy without ensuring protections for workers. I have been a strong supporter of unions and collective bargaining and will continue to work to strengthen workers' rights to organize. Film jobs are a great example of high-value creative work that injects money directly into the local economy and employing New Mexico in good union jobs.

**c. What partnerships would you seek in developing those sectors?**

**ANSWER:**

The first partnership that would be necessary to achieve our goal is to establish partnerships with community groups and community members. Irrespective of ongoing governmental partnerships, the community should be at the forefront of directing outcomes from new developments in the employment sector. We need to listen to the needs and wants of the community if we are going to grow together.

Partnering with tech companies and others to ensure that the skilled workers that are coming out of our job training programs are connected with local employers and industry is key to ensuring that people are able to transition to better, higher-paying jobs.

**d. What data do you have to support pursuing development of those sectors and how would they improve job creation and provide living wages?**

**ANSWER:**

I don't think anyone can say with a straight face that New Mexico invests too little in oil and gas. Working with the extractive industries to earn the bulk of state revenue exposes us to the negative effects of rapid shifts in the oil market. Diversifying our energy portfolio will reduce these rapid shifts and provide more stability to the revenue being collected by the state, while also reducing risks to our water table and preserving sacred and wild spaces for future generations.

As far as marijuana legalization, you need only look north to see the positive economic effects being reaped by Colorado by their legalization of marijuana and hemp. While bolstering the economy and providing much-needed new tax revenue for state coffers, it also reduces state spending and prison overcrowding on the back end as we move away from incarcerating folks for marijuana possession.

Small business development keeps investment local, so we are injecting money back into our own economy.

There is plenty of data available through the state Job Council and UNM's Bureau of Business and Economic Research (BBER) that supports these conclusions. We have failed to act on concrete evidence that these programs work for our communities, and I fully support an evidence-based approach to the diversity of our economy and our workforce.

#### **QUESTION 8:**

What does "common sense gun control" mean to you? What measures would you take to improve gun safety?

#### **INH RATING of this Response**

**0-1= Poor, 1-2=Good, 2-3=Excellent**

<b>Ideology</b>	<b>Knowledge of topic</b>	<b>Quality of Solutions offered</b>
<b>2.8</b>	<b>2.65</b>	<b>2.65</b>

#### **ANSWER: RICK MIERA**

To me, "common sense gun control" means banning assault weapons, longer waiting periods for gun purchases, a minimum age for gun purchases, and universal background checks for every gun purchase. Easy and quick access to firearms drives much of the violence our country experiences, whether it's the mass shootings that have garnered so much attention in the news or the easy access that allows individuals struggling with mental health issues to quickly and effectively end their lives.

We must address the underlying issues of a society obsessed and taken over by gun violence. This includes the de-militarization of police forces, which have steadily approached law enforcement in an increasingly violent way. There is no excuse for the kind of escalation that led

to the senseless death of Stephon Clark, or the tragic death of James Boyd right here in Albuquerque.

**QUESTION 9:**

After the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) scrapped net neutrality rules last year, states and cities across the U.S. have led efforts to restore net neutrality and sought to insulate their communities from the effects of the FCC's repeal. As Lieutenant Governor, how would you fight to ensure equal access to content for New Mexicans? Are there lessons to be learned from previous efforts in New Mexico and in other U.S. states?

**INH RATING of this Response**

0-1= Poor, 1-2=Good, 2-3=Excellent

Ideology	Knowledge of topic	Quality of Solutions offered
2.6	2.3	2.15

**ANSWER: RICK MIERA**

The New Mexico Legislature has historically been slow to address rapid development in the technology field. Our Legislature, only in session 90 days of every 2 years, rarely has time to update existing statute to keep up with technological development and emerging problems. This is a problem we cannot afford to ignore, especially given recent revelations regarding the tremendous effect Facebook and fake news reportedly had on the 2016 Presidential election.

Inaction is not an option, especially with the rate of change in this field. With my wealth of experience working to get legislation through the State House and State Senate, I would devote myself to protecting net neutrality, either as legislation or as part of our next Democratic Governor's executive authority.

This issue, because of the ubiquity and worldwide-ness of the world wide web, must be addressed at many levels. I pledge to work with our next Democratic governor and our new all-blue Congressional delegation to address these issues both on the state level and the federal level.

**QUESTION 10:**

Trump's "\$1.5 trillion infrastructure plan" is really \$200 billion in federal funding that leaves state and local governments to cover 80% of project costs? How do you envision paying for infrastructure projects in New Mexico?

**INH RATING of this Response**

0-1= Poor, 1-2=Good, 2-3=Excellent

Ideology	Knowledge of topic	Quality of Solutions offered
2.6	2.45	2.4

### ANSWER: RICK MIERA

We can begin by transitioning currently-unproductive state lands into renewable energy projects, harnessing the natural energy of our New Mexico sun and wind to create sustainable energy sources for our communities. The more we work on opening these lands to renewable companies, the more productive these lands will be. This includes not only opening lands to renewable companies, but also investing in the infrastructure they need to be successful in New Mexico.

As I mentioned before, our state's laser focus on revenue from oil and gas has robbed us of other, more lucrative uses for our land. I would like to see diversification of our energy portfolio, allowing us for more consistent revenue for our state across the board, which can be distributed for infrastructure projects in legislators' districts.

Land use has a tremendous effect on how much revenue the State receives from leasing state lands to private enterprise. It is shocking to me that we risk such dire consequences – from the marring of our beautiful public lands, interference with natural flora and fauna, and possible contamination of our water table – when our land is used for oil and gas extraction.

I will use my role in the State Investment Council to ensure that funds are invested in renewable energy and the infrastructure renewable energy companies rely on to transmit energy statewide.

## Lieutenant Governor - Respondent - Howie Morales

### QUESTION 1:

How should our state and country ensure that all its members have access to adequate food, healthcare, and housing? What legislation/administrative actions have you proposed/supported/implemented to demonstrate that commitment?

### INH RATING of this Response

0-1= Poor, 1-2=Good, 2-3=Excellent

Ideology	Knowledge of topic	Quality of Solutions offered
2.89	2.79	2.79

**ANSWER: HOWIE MORALES**

Too many children in New Mexico go to bed hungry every night of the year. Too many seniors living on fixed incomes, and families who work, are food insecure. We need strong new leadership in our state Executive to address this intolerable problem.

On food, first of all, we must insist loud and clear that Congress and the federal Executive increase SNAP access, not reduce it. At the state level, we need a Governor who will immediately put an end to the systemic fraud that has been occurring at the New Mexico Health Services Department for years to deny residents their federally guaranteed food assistance. The denial and delay of emergency SNAP benefits for families must end on day one. We must also simplify and streamline the SNAP application process, and increase staffing to serve vulnerable New Mexicans better.

More than 1 in 4 children in New Mexico are considered food insecure and many depend on school meals for their main meal of their day. Currently, only 25 percent of New Mexico children eat even three servings of fruits and vegetables per day.

To reach more hungry children, the state should expand and increase summer meal programs, and expand the areas they serve across NM, and also reimbursing institutions that serve healthy meals and snacks outside of school hours.

I also think we should help NM eat better, too, encouraging more healthy food and plants. We can help make that change by using state policy to offer more locally-grown fresh fruits and vegetables to cafeterias in schools, senior centers and other institutions.

In the 2018 legislative session, I teamed up with NM Food to Table to co-sponsor SB 106 "NM-Grown Produce in School Meals" to restore \$400,000 funding for schools statewide to purchase NM grown fruits and vegetables for school meals. Fruits and vegetables enhance children's diets, promoting healthier lifestyles and increase achievement. Buying NM-grown also strengthens our local farming economy and rural sectors by expanding market opportunities for farmers.

On housing, we certainly need more supportive housing strategies at the state level for low and middle income earners. But I feel strongly that we must focus on creating more employment in New Mexico, and better education and training. For the past eight years, NM has been worst in the nation for unemployment, and that has created a real problem for residents, and it has been felt in many communities. That must change. We need a new Executive who take successful and proven approaches to creating more jobs that pay a living wage for our people. Reduced poverty, and improved employment opportunities

and incomes is our best insurance for residents who need to be able to pay for housing in NM. It will be a major focus for me as Lt. Governor.

We must get more state, federal and private funds to directly help the homeless with housing first, and then more social support second. For too long, this problem has been ignored by Gov. Martinez, but that will change with new Democratic leadership in 2019 when we make ending hunger and homelessness a priority.

On healthcare, I have been the sponsor in the Senate for several years now of the Health Security Act, SB 172, to create universal healthcare for all New Mexicans. The Health Security Plan will automatically cover almost all New Mexicans. It will offer a comprehensive health care; provide freedom of choice of health care provider and facility (no more networks), even across state lines, and simplify administration since it is not dependent on the costly and complicated private insurance system.

The Plan will be paid for by using existing public dollars, along with employer contributions and premiums based on income. My healthcare legislation is the most progressive solution for NM’s health coverage challenges.

**QUESTION 2:**

Across the board, New Mexico tops the charts when it comes to violence against women. According to the Violence Poverty Report and the FBI, New Mexican women live in a state that has the 10th highest rate of women killed by men and the 4th highest rate of rapes. New Mexico also ranks 3rd for frequency of sexual assaults and 1st for the highest number of untested rape kits per capita in the nation (source: Office of the State Auditor). As Lieutenant Governor, what steps would you take to address violence against women in New Mexico? Why do you think these specific efforts will be more successful than previous efforts?

**INH RATING of this Response**

**0-1= Poor, 1-2=Good, 2-3=Excellent**

Ideology	Knowledge of topic	Quality of Solutions offered
2.65	2.5	2.0

**ANSWER: HOWIE MORALES**

As Lieutenant Governor I will continue to advocate to end domestic violence, but I will do so from a bigger platform where I can be more effective. For me, domestic violence is not only a law enforcement issue, it is also civil rights, health care, and a social justice issue as well. We



need a lot more violence prevention and outreach services in NM, and more services for children who have lived in abusive homes, and who have been exposed to violence. These will be my priorities.

As an educator, I am acutely aware that teachers and school staff must be helped to find out why a child is troubled in school. I will push for more educational initiatives - and funding - for schools to work with children exposed to violence against their mothers in the home. We also need more resources and funding for child-protection worker and police responders.

We need far more financial support and resources for our domestic violence shelters in the state, whose work often saves lives. I am for more training of health professionals and law enforcement officers to recognize domestic violence. I am also in favor of stiffer penalties for repeat abusers. And I will push for banning those under order of protection, or with domestic abuse convictions from owning firearms of any kind. I also think we need additional focus on protections for Native Americans, immigrants and the LGBT community in all of these regards.

Ultimately, I believe we must change attitudes in NM in order to end the violence against women, and ensure that they are safe in their homes. As Lieutenant Governor, I will be well-positioned to use my voice and my office to affect such change.

**QUESTION 3:**

Although New Mexico has made important strides toward equality and self-determination for its LGBT+ community, we continue to fall short without laws and policies protecting LGBT+ youth (i.e. prohibiting harassment and bullying of students and discrimination in schools based on a student’s sexual orientation and gender identity) as well as LGBT+ inclusive healthcare (i.e. prohibiting insurance exclusions for transgender healthcare and providing transgender-inclusive health benefits to state employees). As Lieutenant Governor, what steps would you take to address these shortcomings and more broadly, to continue to strengthen state-level protections for LGBT+ New Mexicans?

**INH RATING of this Response**

0-1= Poor, 1-2=Good, 2-3=Excellent

Ideology	Knowledge of topic	Quality of Solutions offered
2.55	2.15	1.85

**ANSWER: HOWIE MORALES**

New Mexico has made tremendous progress over the last few years, but there is still more work to be done on this front. Many allies of the LGBTQ+ community felt that after the Supreme Court ruling in favor of same-sex marriage that our work was done, but this is simply incorrect. As a

society we are still lagging with both dialogue and understanding. This sobering reality was underscored again in New Mexico with the tragic murders of Zakaria Fry and Carrell Ray. We must do better for all of our citizens, but especially those citizens who exist in the vulnerable margins of our society.

As Lieutenant Governor, I will use my position to both listen to diverse voices from the LGBTQ+ community and empower those same voices to be active participants in our government and decision making processes. By promoting closer cooperation, visibility, and greater understanding, we can make New Mexico a place where all of its citizens and visitors feel valued, safe, and welcome.

#### **QUESTION 4:**

At the national level, we are witnessing increasing anti-immigrant sentiment and an inability to pursue bipartisan immigration reform. In response, states and cities around the U.S. have undertaken a myriad of efforts to address immigration and to balance competing economic, humanitarian, and security concerns for their communities. As Lieutenant Governor, what specific steps would you take and why?

#### **INH RATING of this Response**

**0-1= Poor, 1-2=Good, 2-3=Excellent**

<b>Ideology</b>	<b>Knowledge of topic</b>	<b>Quality of Solutions offered</b>
<b>2.85</b>	<b>2.75</b>	<b>2.4</b>

#### **ANSWER: HOWIE MORALES**

It is my opinion that President Trump and his administration have declared war on immigrants today, and they intend to deport people in New Mexico and across the U.S. who are without status, or who may be without status. This policy of the federal government is a major abandonment of our country's heritage and history as a nation of immigrants, and it is especially threatening for people residing in a border state such as New Mexico. It is immoral and cruel.

I am also unfortunately not hopeful that a legal or legislative resolution in favor of Dreamers will occur. For all of these reasons, I strongly support the sanctuary city policy of Santa Fe mayor Alan Webber ordering his police department not to assist the federal government in any way in deportations.

Last week I strongly condemned the Trump Administration's decision to include a question regarding the US Citizenship status of respondents of the 2020 Census, and my comments were reported by the New Mexico media.

The people of New Mexico demand that all of us be counted in the Census, just like the Constitution explicitly states. In the 2010 Census, our state population was composed of over 48 % of Hispanics, and we know that an accurate count in 2020 will reflect a sizable increase in that numbers. We will not allow political interference to put into question the accuracy of our state's population count. This blatant political interference would also lead to gross distortions of our funding streams and re-districting processes. I join legislators from across the country in calling on the Trump Administration to reverse course, and if they ignore the pleas from experts around the country, then Congress has a duty to protect the integrity of our Census.

For the last seven years, I have stood firmly with Somos un Pueblo Unido to fight Governor Susana Martinez every time she tried to take away driver's licenses from NM's undocumented immigrants. I insisted that they continue to be allowed to drive lawfully in the state, and we won. That is the kind of Lt. Governor I will be for immigrants.

#### **QUESTION 5:**

How will you protect public lands and national monuments for current and future generations of New Mexicans?

#### **INH RATING of this Response**

**0-1= Poor, 1-2=Good, 2-3=Excellent**

<b>Ideology</b>	<b>Knowledge of topic</b>	<b>Quality of Solutions offered</b>
<b>2.75</b>	<b>2.85</b>	<b>2.5</b>

#### **ANSWER: HOWIE MORALES**

I am firmly committed to protecting NM's public lands and our national monuments from any diminishment or encroachment. New Mexicans, too, overwhelmingly want to preserve our pristine public lands for future generations to enjoy, and they strongly oppose bargaining off our national monuments to fossil fuel corporations. As Lt. Governor, I will always fight to protect the Organ Mountains Desert Peaks, the Rio Grande del Norte national monuments, and our other public treasures. I also will use my power and position to oppose the Trump administration's push to allow oil and gas drilling near Chaco Canyon ruins. Our federal and state public lands should be protected and expanded, not shrunk.

I also strongly oppose the U.S. Interior Department's rollback of regulations in order to permit more uranium mining activity on public lands, and to open up more oil and gas drilling. The Republican Congress crusade against public lands poses a grave danger, and must be opposed. My policy is to find a balance between energy development and protecting our Western lifestyle and our New Mexican heritage, which these public lands represent.

As Lt. Governor I will fight any legislation that would hand over millions of acres of protected federal land to state ownership.

As a senator from the Gila Wilderness area, I want my kids and grandkids to be able to enjoy these public lands the same way I did. Drilling and mining on public lands in NM should occur where it is appropriate for those purposes, but not within or near protected monuments like Chaco Canyon.

Outdoor recreational activities like hunting, fishing and hiking on public lands are a major source of tourism dollars for NM and rural communities. Protecting our public lands is not the right thing to do, it also makes important economic sense.

When the U.S. Air Force announced its plan last winter to begin launching thousands of F-16 training flights of Grant County, I stood up with residents and loudly said No. One reason is that the economy of Silver City and the surrounding areas is heavily dependent on people visiting the Gila from all over the world. The nation’s first wilderness area, and the largest in the state, attracts visitors who want to experience its quiet places, see its archeological sites, float its rivers, see its wolves, fish its streams, and hunt its elk, deer, turkey, and other wildlife. Local New Mexicans are just as devoted to enjoying the forest for hunting, fishing, camping, horseback riding, and hiking. All of these activities require a quiet forest and would be disastrously impacted by 10,000 low-elevation military flights and the dropping of 30,000 flares and chaff, which can devastatingly disrupt wildlife in addition to the activities of humans. This is especially troubling given the pervasive risk of forest fires. As Lt. Governor, this is the kind of leadership for public lands I will bring.

**QUESTION 6:**

Have you accepted campaign contributions from the following industries? If so why and are you willing to give them back and pledge not to accept additional contributions?

Fossil fuel industry?

The pharmaceutical industry?

The NRA or gun lobby?

The tobacco industry?

**INH RATING of this Response**

0-1= Poor, 1-2=Good, 2-3=Excellent

Ideology	Knowledge of topic	Quality of Solutions offered
2.0	2.37	2.05

**ANSWER: HOWIE MORALES**

I have never taken campaign contributions from the NRA or the gun industry, nor from the tobacco industry. While I have received contributions from the pharmaceutical and fossil fuel industries, they have never influenced my vote. Even a cursory inspection of my voting record over 11 years will show that. I have a 100% rating from CVNM and the Sierra Club.

As a senator, I have taken on Big Tobacco time and again to increase the excise tax on cigarettes and tobacco products – including e-cigarettes and tobacco - by \$1.50 in New Mexico. My bill would generate \$89 million more annually for public school classrooms in the state, and would keep over 12,000 children from starting smoking, and get thousands of adults to cease smoking.

- Our state has been heavily reliant on revenue from gas and oil.
- What sectors of the economy would you focus on improving to help diversify our economy?
- What are your ideas for developing those sectors?
- What partnerships would you seek in developing those sectors?
- What data do you have to support pursuing development of those sectors and how would they improve job creation and provide living wages?

**QUESTION 7:**

Our state has been heavily reliant on revenue from gas and oil.

What sectors of the economy would you focus on improving to help diversify our economy?

What are your ideas for developing those sectors?

What partnerships would you seek in developing those sectors?

What data do you have to support pursuing development of those sectors and how would they improve job creation and provide living wages?

**INH RATING of this Response**

0-1= Poor, 1-2=Good, 2-3=Excellent

Ideology	Knowledge of topic	Quality of Solutions offered
2.79	2.42	2.21

**ANSWER: HOWIE MORALES**

We need to develop a robust renewable energy economy in New Mexico, including solar, wind and geothermal. The development of more renewable energy in NM is a promising area of economic policy that we should be taking bold action on, but haven't over the past seven years. That will change in January when we elect a Democratic Governor and Lt. Governor.

Solar and wind must become a priority in NM again. As Lt. Governor, I will push legislation to make it happen. Other states, most without the advantages that NM enjoys, are taking bold steps to create a renewable energy reality. Residential solar power in Washington D.C. (a place with only a fraction of the year-round sunshine we have) is growing by leaps and bounds. Policymakers there put solar rebates for ordinary home-owners of modest means. A 30% tax credit there if you install solar panels on your home.

People in our state overwhelming want more renewable energy - they understand it. It means more jobs, lower energy bills, and non-polluting industries. As senator, I have always voted in favor of expanding solar and wind in NM. As Lt. Governor, I will push for bold approaches to vastly expand renewable energy in NM.

#### **QUESTION 8:**

What does "common sense gun control" mean to you? What measures would you take to improve gun safety?

#### **INH RATING of this Response**

**0-1= Poor, 1-2=Good, 2-3=Excellent**

<b>Ideology</b>	<b>Knowledge of topic</b>	<b>Quality of Solutions offered</b>
<b>2.75</b>	<b>2.65</b>	<b>2.65</b>

#### **ANSWER: HOWIE MORALES**

I will never accept as routine the horrific acts of violence that are happening in schools and elsewhere around the country – including in New Mexico. So we must never stop demanding that all of our leaders at every level of society not only acknowledge this devastating problem, but take long overdue action to keep especially our children safe.

As Lt. Governor, I will use my bully pulpit to take on the NRA and its lobbyists to pass common sense legislation with practical solutions:

- Tighten background checks
- End the gun show loophole
- Crack down on people who buy guns illegally for people who can't

- Ban civilian sale of all semiautomatic assault weapons.

We also need a lot more access to mental health treatment to stop the epidemic of gun violence in America. This is critical, and I will continue to fight as I have as a state senator for eleven years for more resources and funding for these mental health services. We also much dramatically change the culture of violence that pervades our society. It is a bigger task, but I am also committed to it.

### QUESTION 9:

After the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) scrapped net neutrality rules last year, states and cities across the U.S. have led efforts to restore net neutrality and sought to insulate their communities from the effects of the FCC's repeal. As Lieutenant Governor, how would you fight to ensure equal access to content for New Mexicans? Are there lessons to be learned from previous efforts in New Mexico and in other U.S. states?

### INH RATING of this Response

0-1= Poor, 1-2=Good, 2-3=Excellent

Ideology	Knowledge of topic	Quality of Solutions offered
2.9	2.9	2.8

### ANSWER: HOWIE MORALES

I strongly oppose the FCC's repeal of net neutrality rules last year. That is why in the January meeting of the legislature, I proposed legislation to establish net neutrality for all of New Mexico. Gov. Martinez refused to put it on the Call of the session, unfortunately, but she will gone soon.

Since the federal government abandoned its key responsibility to ensure free and fair Internet, I have vocally pushed for legislation at the state level immediately to put in place strong net neutrality requirements. We have ample means to do it. We can require that the powerful broadband providers like Verizon, Comcast and AT&T that operate in NM strictly practice net neutrality, and we can impose it in state contracts. Our state cable franchise agreements also can be used to establish net neutrality as a condition for accessing the public right-of-way for internet infrastructure. California is making good efforts in this direction now. States can protect free and open internet access, and I intend to continue to fight for it as Lt. Governor.

Among other things, I am very concerned that students, the elderly and low-income people in New Mexico will be hurt when Internet service providers raise their rates. The FCC's repeal of net neutrality makes that certain. Many people in New Mexico cannot afford to pay more for access to the Internet.

Also, net neutrality consumer protections have helped many Hispanics, people of color and residents of rural communities find economic and educational opportunities online, and provided a platform to organize for change without interference or censorship from for-profit corporate Internet providers.

#### QUESTION 10:

Trump’s “\$1.5 trillion infrastructure plan” is really \$200 billion in federal funding that leaves state and local governments to cover 80% of project costs? How do you envision paying for infrastructure projects in New Mexico?

#### INH RATING of this Response

0-1= Poor, 1-2=Good, 2-3=Excellent

Ideology	Knowledge of topic	Quality of Solutions offered
2.45	2.3	1.75

#### ANSWER: HOWIE MORALES

President Trump and Congressional Republicans’ infrastructure scheme would rely on the states to pay the billions of dollars for its implementation, but that is impossible. States, including New Mexico, simply do not have that money laying around. Trump’s plan is a massively expensive corporate give-away that would create tax incentives for Wall Street to privatize our roads, bridges, water and waste systems, while raising tolls, fees, and bills — all through taxpayer subsidies. I strongly oppose the Trump infrastructure boondoggle.

While there may be scenarios where P3 arrangements for infrastructure could work, I am very cautious about P3s as a solution to NM’s infrastructure needs. I oppose the public taking all the financial risk for these projects, while private corporations get all the benefit. I support new approaches to meet NM’s infrastructure needs in the context of a boldly reformed system of revenue for our state. This will require strong new executive leadership in our state.

## Lieutenant Governor - Respondent - Billy Garrett

#### QUESTION 1:

How should our state and country ensure that all its members have access to adequate food, healthcare, and housing? What legislation/administrative actions have you proposed/supported/implemented to demonstrate that commitment?

#### INH RATING of this Response

0-1= Poor, 1-2=Good, 2-3=Excellent



Ideology	Knowledge of topic	Quality of Solutions offered
2.63	2.58	2.32

**ANSWER: BILLY GARRETT**

I have endorsed the “State Platform for the Democratic of New Mexico” in its entirety. The platform has a strong section on Healthcare, and supports local farming as part of the solution for food deserts. The platform also supports expanded housing for low and middle-income households through “Inclusionary Zoning”, tax incentives, and increased availability of public housing. This is a good place to start in terms of revising state policies on these issues.

As a Commissioner in Doña Ana County I led a 5-year regional planning effort that updated the county Comprehensive Plan, created new approaches to responsible community development, and established a new Affordable Housing Program. A central concern of the planning effort was to create opportunities for individuals and families to reduce their combined household cost of housing and transportation. The plan also stresses the importance of including health as a primary factor in planning decisions. By extension, this means supporting improved access to healthy food and health services.

During my tenure on the County Commission and as a member of the Board of Directors of the South Central Regional Transit Authority, I have been instrumental in establishing and expanding a public transportation system that serves the rural sections of Doña Ana County. Public transportation is been a major concern for many residents in rural areas because it is essential for access to food, healthcare, education, and jobs.

As a candidate for Lieutenant Governor, I have called for state government to focus on improving the wellbeing of “...each individual, every family, our communities, and the environment.” If elected, I would advocate for expanded access to healthy food, healthcare, and affordable housing at every opportunity.

For example, as a statutory member of the Mortgage Finance Authority I would expand technical assistance to communities that want to establish Affordable Housing Plans and Ordinances, and advocate for expanded use of Low Income Housing Tax Credits (LIHTC) and Risk Sharing Loans..

**QUESTION 2:**

Across the board, New Mexico tops the charts when it comes to violence against women. According to the Violence Poverty Report and the FBI, New Mexican women live in a state that has the 10th highest rate of women killed by men and the 4th highest rate of rapes. New Mexico also ranks 3rd for frequency of sexual assaults and 1st for the highest number of untested rape kits per capita in the nation (source: Office of the State Auditor). As Lieutenant Governor, what

steps would you take to address violence against women in New Mexico? Why do you think these specific efforts will be more successful than previous efforts?

### INH RATING of this Response

0-1= Poor, 1-2=Good, 2-3=Excellent

Ideology	Knowledge of topic	Quality of Solutions offered
2.85	2.85	2.85

### ANSWER: BILLY GARRETT

Responses to violence against women tend to be fragmentary and almost exclusively punitive. In spite of the state's already high incarceration rate, crimes against women have not abated. A system-oriented approach that addresses underlying conditions, intervention, and protection is needed.

Notwithstanding the need for a comprehensive approach to violence against women, crimes against women must be given high priority in terms of investigation and prosecution. The backlog of rape kits must be addressed as quickly as is feasible and never allowed to occur again. Assumptions that discount or minimize testimony by women must be challenged and disallowed.

One of the hallmarks of New Mexico government is an institutionalized bias against women and the poor, rural residents and people of color. In fact, violence against women is also correlated with these other demographic factors. Reducing violence against women must begin with a fundamental shift toward respect for all people. As Lieutenant Governor I will hold myself to this standard and will advocate for all state programs to be framed and administered within this spirit.

Any change in attitude toward women would be mere lip service without real advances in the status of women. Chief among these are equal pay for equal work, restrictions that limit opportunities for women in educational, political and social life, and any impediment to healthcare as desired by individual women. (These issues are addressed in the "State Platform of the Democratic Party of New Mexico", which I have endorsed.)

According to analysis done by the Geography Department at NMSU, reports of domestic abuse in Doña Ana County have a high correlation with areas of high poverty and unemployment. It follows that part of the long-term solution to this problem is to reduce economic stress on families through increased hourly wages, more jobs, and associated educational opportunities. I have called for all these measures as a Lieutenant Governor candidate.

On a more immediate basis I support legislation that would prohibit the sale of a firearm to anyone convicted of domestic abuse. I also support expanding financial assistance for programs

that address sexual assault and domestic abuse. Although these programs are often operated by NGOs, I believe that we should recognize them as an integral part of the community’s public safety program and so should not be subject to anti-donation prohibitions. I would also encourage solicitation of suggestions from these NGOs as a basis for improvement of state programs.

And finally, individuals convicted of violence against women—and particularly domestic abuse—should receive appropriate counseling while they are incarcerated and afterwards to reduce the potential of repeat behavior.

**QUESTION 3:**

Although New Mexico has made important strides toward equality and self-determination for its LGBT+ community, we continue to fall short without laws and policies protecting LGBT+ youth (i.e. prohibiting harassment and bullying of students and discrimination in schools based on a student’s sexual orientation and gender identity) as well as LGBT+ inclusive healthcare (i.e. prohibiting insurance exclusions for transgender healthcare and providing transgender-inclusive health benefits to state employees). As Lieutenant Governor, what steps would you take to address these shortcomings and more broadly, to continue to strengthen state-level protections for LGBT+ New Mexicans?

**INH RATING of this Response**

0-1= Poor, 1-2=Good, 2-3=Excellent

Ideology	Knowledge of topic	Quality of Solutions offered
2.8	2.6	2.35

**ANSWER: BILLY GARRETT**

As Lieutenant Governor, I would continue my advocacy for fair and equal treatment of all the state’s residents—with special attention on obstacles created to marginalize life for any group, including the LGBTQ community.

I would meet with representatives of the LGBTQ community on a regular basis to better understand their concerns, priorities, and suggested actions, and would ensure open communications regarding any potential civil rights violations at all times.

As Chair of the County Commission in Doña Ana County, I took a lead role in ensuring that the Commission endorsed the decision of County Clerk Lynn Ellins when he decided to begin issuing marriage licenses regardless of gender. I have been an outspoken advocate for marriage equality and in 2014 was recognized by Southern New Mexico Pride as “Political Activist of the Year.”

I am currently Vice-Chair of the Coalition Against Bullying: an organization devoted to reducing bullying in Doña Ana County. As Lieutenant Governor I would promote development and

expansion of similar coalitions throughout the state as a way to reduce teen suicide and support the wellbeing of any marginalized or vulnerable people.

#### QUESTION 4:

At the national level, we are witnessing increasing anti-immigrant sentiment and an inability to pursue bipartisan immigration reform. In response, states and cities around the U.S. have undertaken a myriad of efforts to address immigration and to balance competing economic, humanitarian, and security concerns for their communities. As Lieutenant Governor, what specific steps would you take and why?

#### INH RATING of this Response

0-1= Poor, 1-2=Good, 2-3=Excellent

Ideology	Knowledge of topic	Quality of Solutions offered
2.80	2.6	2.5

#### ANSWER: BILLY GARRETT

Protection of all residents from threats to their health and safety is a basic responsibility of government. Until the federal government establishes a just and equitable solution to our country's immigration crisis, states and municipalities must fill the gap.

As a County Commissioner I have led efforts to prohibit collection and use of information about citizenship status by county employees, and to call on local law enforcement entities without our region to leave enforcement of federal immigration laws to federal agencies. In 2015 the Border Network for Human Rights recognized my work in this area with their "Safe Community Award".

I have also supported actions in opposition to ICE raids at schools and other public facilities, as well as calling on Congress to pass legislation on comprehensive immigration reform—including a path to citizenship for all undocumented residents who wish to become US citizens, most especially DREAMERS.

As Lieutenant Governor I would continue to advocate for similar measures at the state level and would strenuously oppose any attempts by the federal government to penalize any entity within New Mexico—including the State itself—that chooses to designate itself as a sanctuary for undocumented people.

#### QUESTION 5:

How will you protect public lands and national monuments for current and future generations of New Mexicans?

**INH RATING of this Response**

0-1= Poor, 1-2=Good, 2-3=Excellent

Ideology	Knowledge of topic	Quality of Solutions offered
2.35	2.3	2.1

**ANSWER: BILLY GARRETT**

Public lands may be under the jurisdiction of either the state or federal government. With respect to protecting state lands, the simplest approach is to elect a Land Commissioner with a background in resource management and understanding of how public lands can be creatively used to general revenue for the state without damaging the lands or unduly restricting public access.

As for federally managed public lands and national monuments—for the duration of the current administration in Washington—we must all be prepared to oppose any diminishment of public use and interest—up to and including transfer of federal lands to the state or opening up federal lands for public purchase. By all, I mean that opposition must come from individual residents, organizations, municipalities, and the State.

Our strategy should consist of (a) information regarding the many types of benefits associated with public lands, and (b) a commitment to engage in legal challenges should public interests be abridged.

**QUESTION 6:**

Have you accepted campaign contributions from the following industries? If so why and are you willing to give them back and pledge not to accept additional contributions?

1. Fossil fuel industry?
2. The pharmaceutical industry?
3. The NRA or gun lobby?
4. The tobacco industry?

**INH RATING of this Response**

0-1= Poor, 1-2=Good, 2-3=Excellent

Ideology	Knowledge of topic	Quality of Solutions offered
2.95	2.95	2.84

**ANSWER: BILLY GARRETT**

I have not accepted—nor will I accept--any contributions from the aforementioned industries. Here's why:

These industries are legal entities that have a right to exist in spite of posing significant risks to public health and safety. They also have a long history of using money and political power to avoid unfavorable regulation.

If a candidate accepts a political contribution from any of these groups, voters may reasonably ask whether that person would be able to make a objective decision when confronted with a decision that would be in the interest of the public but might adversely affect the profitability of that industry.

**QUESTION 7:**

Our state has been heavily reliant on revenue from gas and oil.

1. What sectors of the economy would you focus on improving to help diversify our economy?
2. What are your ideas for developing those sectors?
3. What partnerships would you seek in developing those sectors?
4. What data do you have to support pursuing development of those sectors and how would they improve job creation and provide living wages?

**INH RATING of this Response**

0-1= Poor, 1-2=Good, 2-3=Excellent

<b>Ideology</b>	<b>Knowledge of topic</b>	<b>Quality of Solutions offered</b>
<b>2.90</b>	<b>2.85</b>	<b>2.65</b>

**ANSWER: BILLY GARRETT**

I favor an approach to economic development that recognizes the intrinsic qualities and limitations of New Mexico, builds on investments in people and infrastructure, and limits incentives to very targeted opportunities where returns clearly outweigh public investment.

Businesses prosper in an environment where the workforce is well educated, healthy, adequately paid, and generally satisfied. No one should work 40 hours a week for less than a living wage (\$15/hr.). Strengthening this foundation should be our first priority in terms of economic development.

Adequate infrastructure is also essential for business initiation, growth, and relocation. The concern here is not limited to whether a system exists but its capacity. For example, roads in some areas must be able to handle overweight loads, electrical must be consistently transmitted, and broadband access must be available throughout the state.

And finally, business development requires capital. Potential sources include: direct use of state reserves, indirect use of reserves invested in a state bank or other local institutions, very judicious use of tax credits, and direct use of annual revenues—as is done currently.

Within this framework, a number of industries stand out as important areas for economic development:

#### o SOLAR AND WIND ENERGY GENERATION

According to a plan developed by New Energy Economy, New Mexico could transition to 100% reliance on renewable energy by 2035. This change would have positive implications for the environment, create jobs, and reposition the state as an energy supplier.

#### o RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

New Mexico has National Laboratories, universities, and other facilities—such as Spaceport America—that are already in place but are underutilized as R&D centers. Potential areas of research include: value-added agriculture, optimizing water and energy use in arid regions, sustainable energy technology, low-g manufacturing, and climate change mitigation (such as carbon sequestration). In addition to support for research the state must create a supportive environment for entrepreneurial development of new products and services.

#### o CONSTRUCTION

The first place to start with construction is in the public sector. The state has a huge backlog of work needed to address deficiencies in roads and highways, flood protection, utilities, and public facilities. Special attention should be given to addressing the shortage of affordable housing units. Infusing public monies into these types of infrastructure projects would make a significant impact on the state economy for at least a decade.

#### o EDUCATION AND HEALTHCARE

Reports on current and future economic activity in New Mexico consistently highlight the importance of education and healthcare as central to the state's wellbeing. Widespread documentation also records the fact that funding levels for education and healthcare are well below the levels needed to address appropriate service levels. Increasing investments in both these areas will address outstanding public needs, immediately improve the economy, and lay the foundation for future economic growth.

o INTERNATIONAL TRADE

The intersection of transportation systems (rail, air and surface) at the Santa Teresa Port-of-entry in southern Doña Ana County offers a unique opportunity for expansion of not just logistics but value-added manufacturing. (Ref. Border Area Economic Development Strategy, Doña Ana County Community Development publication).

o HOSPITALITY & FILM

New Mexico has a rich variety of cultural, historical, and natural settings that have attracted visitors for more than a century. To traditional tourism we can now add eco-tourism—especially of our national parks and monuments, and film production. Maintaining the integrity of these resources while expanding their non-consumptive use as destinations and story settings should be a prime concern of the state.

**QUESTION 8:**

What does “common sense gun control” mean to you? What measures would you take to improve gun safety?

**INH RATING of this Response**

0-1= Poor, 1-2=Good, 2-3=Excellent

Ideology	Knowledge of topic	Quality of Solutions offered
2.75	2.8	2.7

**ANSWER: BILLY GARRETT**

I favor the following measures as a first step:

- No gun sales without background checks.
- Close the gun show loophole.
- No gun sales to anyone under the age of 21.
- No private ownership of bump stocks and assault hand guns and rifles.
- No high-capacity magazines other than in the hands of police and the military.



I also support funding of research by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) into conditions associated with gun-related injuries and death, and identification of measures to reduce the incidence and severity of these incidents based on scientific information and analysis.

#### QUESTION 9:

After the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) scrapped net neutrality rules last year, states and cities across the U.S. have led efforts to restore net neutrality and sought to insulate their communities from the effects of the FCC's repeal. As Lieutenant Governor, how would you fight to ensure equal access to content for New Mexicans? Are there lessons to be learned from previous efforts in New Mexico and in other U.S. states?

#### INH RATING of this Response

0-1= Poor, 1-2=Good, 2-3=Excellent

Ideology	Knowledge of topic	Quality of Solutions offered
2.9	2.8	2.75

#### ANSWER: BILLY GARRETT

Most New Mexicans—like other Americans—rely on the internet for information they use to make political decisions. For this reason, equal access to information by everyone regardless of income is fundamental to the functioning of our democracy. Internet service providers (ISP) could compromise this principle by blocking or slowing access to online content. The interference could be direct—disallowing access to one or more websites, or indirect—charging higher rates for access to sites. To prevent such interference, measures must be in place to ensure net-neutrality.

New Mexico should join other states in challenging the FCC rollback of net-neutrality rules. Several options are open to the state:

- Join the State of Washington in passing legislation that prevents an ISP from blocking or slowing down online content by charging more for faster access in order to benefit of that ISP or partner websites. Similar legislation is under consideration in about two-dozen other states.
- The Governor could issue an executive order that prohibits ISP companies with state contracts from blocking or slowing data on their lines.
- The state Attorney General could sue the FCC—individually or in conjunction with actions by other AGs.

#### QUESTION 10:

Trump’s “\$1.5 trillion infrastructure plan” is really \$200 billion in federal funding that leaves state and local governments to cover 80% of project costs? How do you envision paying for infrastructure projects in New Mexico?

### INH RATING of this Response

0-1= Poor, 1-2=Good, 2-3=Excellent

Ideology	Knowledge of topic	Quality of Solutions offered
2.36	2.57	2.29

### ANSWER: BILLY GARRETT

The first step toward restoring some sensibility to a national infrastructure program is to put a Democrat in the White House and establish Democratic majorities in both houses of Congress.

Work with our Congressional delegation to initiate a multi-agency partnership—similar to the Sustainable Communities Partnership—aimed at addressing substandard conditions in rural areas. Doña Ana County, alone, needs more than \$600M to take care of public roads, water supply and wastewater disposal, flood protection, affordable housing, and public facilities such as fire stations, community centers, and parks.

An estimated \$400M is also needed in Doña Ana County to improve private roads, install broadband, support domestic mutual water systems, and other non-county related public utilities—primarily wastewater treatment.

Extrapolating the backlog based on these numbers from one of the state’s larger counties, we can assume that between \$12B and \$24B is needed to bring all rural areas of New Mexico up to safe and healthy standards. For sake of comparison, the cost of the border wall through southern New Mexico could cost as much as \$6.5B. Spread over a 10-year period, the annual program cost would be between \$1.2B and \$2.4B.

Assuming such a program would operate on a matching grant basis—like Community Development Block Grants—complementary funds would be needed at the state and local levels. Reallocation of state revenues and use of a portion of state reserves are legitimate sources for these funds. If the state contribution were based on a 20% local match, \$240M to \$480M would be required annually: or roughly 1-2% of New Mexico’s \$23B reserve.

## Secretary of State - Respondent - Maggie Toulouse-Oliver

### QUESTION 1:

As Secretary of State, what is ONE critical issue for New Mexicans that you will champion in your first year in office? Why have you selected this issue and what specific steps would you

take to address it? Why do you think these initiatives/policies will be successful and how will you evaluate their success?

### INH RATING of this Response

0-1= Poor, 1-2=Good, 2-3=Excellent

Ideology	Knowledge of topic	Quality of Solutions offered
2.96	2.96	2.96

### ANSWER: MAGGIE TOULOUSE-OLIVER

As Bernalillo County Clerk and now as Secretary of State, making it easier—not harder—for people to register to vote and to cast a ballot has always been my top priority.

In my first 15 months as Secretary of State, I have been working to make it easier to register to vote by partnering with the Motor Vehicle Division to implement automatic voter registration. I've also worked with the disability community to ensure that voters with disabilities can more easily participate. Further, I have established the Native American Voting Task Force to enhance native voter participation across the state.

Issues of access are important to me because, in order for our democracy to work, all voices must be heard. For too much of our history certain communities or classes of people have been denied—directly or indirectly—their right to vote. Until we hear from everyone at the ballot box, we will not have a government that accurately reflects the needs, values and ideals of all.

The basic measure for evaluating the success of these efforts will be the raw numbers of registered voters and, more importantly, voter turnout for the 2018 election and beyond. However, the most important measure will be to see whether we have improved government representation and accountability in the coming years. Albeit subjective, the overall quality of life for New Mexicans will undoubtedly improve if this is the case.

### QUESTION 2:

As Secretary of State, you would take on the role of state government ethics regulator. What do you see as the strengths of our current system for reporting the campaign finances of candidates for public office and the regulation of lobbyist activity? What aspects of this system would you seek to change and why?

### INH RATING of this Response

0-1= Poor, 1-2=Good, 2-3=Excellent

Ideology	Knowledge of topic	Quality of Solutions offered
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2.83	2.83	2.67
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**ANSWER: MAGGIE TOULOUSE-OLIVER**

Our current campaign finance reporting systems were established with the intention of creating transparency in government. Unfortunately, no system is perfect. That is why, as Secretary of State, I have worked to improve the system by making information easily accessible to more people, making elected officials' financial disclosure forms public, and creating new rules to shine a light on dark money in politics.

In 2017, I supported the Constitutional Amendment for a Statewide Ethics Commission, which passed the Legislature. The amendment will be on this year's ballot, and I am hopeful it will pass and can be implemented in 2019 and beyond.

This year, our office received funding from the legislature to improve and enhance our Campaign Finance Information System – so that we can make it more user-friendly and more functional for candidates, campaigns and the public.

**QUESTION 3:**

In democracies worldwide, there is growing concern over the reliability and security of our electoral systems in the face of cyber attacks and manipulation. Yet New Mexico, notably, has been praised for being ahead of the game by utilizing paper rather than electronic ballots. In your opinion, what are the greatest security risks to and security strengths of our current voting systems in New Mexico? As Secretary of State, what actions would you seek to take, if any, to increase security and reliability in future elections?

**INH RATING of this Response**

0-1= Poor, 1-2=Good, 2-3=Excellent

Ideology	Knowledge of topic	Quality of Solutions offered
2.88	2.88	2.79

**ANSWER: MAGGIE TOULOUSE-OLIVER**

While we must be vigilant to protect our elections systems from outside interference, the greatest threat to our elections is the erosion of public trust. If people do not believe that elections are free and open, or if they do not believe that every vote truly counts, they won't vote. And, democracy only works when all people participate.

That's why I am working closely with the Department of Homeland Security to ensure that our systems include the best possible cybersecurity. I also am proud to be implementing science-

based, random post-election audits to check for accuracy in our count. And I am also committed to protecting every voter's personal information—so much so that I twice refused to hand over voter information to Donald Trump in his voter fraud witch hunt.

**QUESTION 4:**

What specific steps did you take in your previous positions to ensure proportional representation of traditionally underrepresented groups (women, People of Color (POC), LGBT+ individuals, individuals with disabilities) in your businesses/firms/elected office? What lessons would you bring with you to the Secretary of State office to improve representation in your administration and the state more widely?

**INH RATING of this Response**

0-1= Poor, 1-2=Good, 2-3=Excellent

Ideology	Knowledge of topic	Quality of Solutions offered
2.83	2.67	2.52

**ANSWER: MAGGIE TOULOUSE-OLIVER**

While hiring staff who look like New Mexico is just the way I do business and ensures that traditionally underserved communities have a seat at the table, providing access to the ballot box for all New Mexicans is the most significant way that I can have an impact. As Bernalillo County Clerk, I established voting convenience centers so that residents could vote at the polling place that made sense for their busy schedule. I put an early voting location on the campus of the University of New Mexico. I even created an app that helped voters see how long the wait (if any) was at a particular polling place.

As Secretary of State, I've worked with the disability community to make it easier for people in wheelchairs and the blind to get to the polls and to cast their vote.

Further, I advocated strongly for a bill—that is now law—that consolidates local elections. By having only one general election day each year, we make it easier for people to know when elections will be held, which makes it easier for them to participate.

**QUESTION 5:**

Have you accepted campaign contributions from the following industries? If so why and are you willing to give them back and pledge not to accept additional contributions?

**ANSWER: MAGGIE TOULOUSE-OLIVER**

- a. Fossil fuel industry? Yes. While I have never taken a contribution from an oil, gas, coal or other fossil-fuel company, I have received contributions from New Mexicans who own companies that conduct work within the fossil fuel industry. However, those companies are not exclusively engaged in fossil fuel extraction and, further, many of them have also engaged in clean, renewable energy production and distribution, which I support.
- b. The pharmaceutical industry? No.
- c. The NRA or gun lobby? No.
- d. The tobacco industry? No

### INH RATING of this Response

0-1= Poor, 1-2=Good, 2-3=Excellent

Ideology	Knowledge of topic	Quality of Solutions offered
2.54	2.65	2.43

### QUESTION 6:

There are numerous communities in NM that remain largely disenfranchised and face serious barriers to voting, such as Native Americans and individuals with disabilities. As Secretary of State, what specific steps would you take to increase voter registration and voter turnout across the state? Why do you think these policies will be successful and how will you evaluate their success?

### INH RATING of this Response

0-1= Poor, 1-2=Good, 2-3=Excellent

Ideology	Knowledge of topic	Quality of Solutions offered
2.75	2.71	2.65

### ANSWER: MAGGIE TOULOUSE-OLIVER

As Secretary of State, I created the first Native American Voting Task Force. This group is bringing together leaders from Indian Country to develop best practices for voting and voter registration on tribal lands and among urban Indian populations.

The goal of the Task Force is to increase participation levels in our tribal precincts in New Mexico by developing and implementing voter education programs that are language- and culturally appropriate to individual tribal communities.

Evaluation of program success will come in the form of increased tribal precinct voter turnout.

**QUESTION 7:**

Some Secretaries of State have been working to disenfranchise eligible voters by finding excuses to remove them from the voter rolls. What permanent rules would you work to enact to protect voter information and ability to vote?

**INH RATING of this Response**

0-1= Poor, 1-2=Good, 2-3=Excellent

Ideology	Knowledge of topic	Quality of Solutions offered
2.79	2.88	2.79

**ANSWER: MAGGIE TOULOUSE-OLIVER**

New Mexico already has strict statutes and rules that protect voter registrations from cancellation and protect the privacy of voter information, and I will continue to support those laws and processes. While Federal law requires states to conduct confirmation mailings for those who have moved and not updated their registrations; and also requires those voters to be removed from the rolls every odd-numbered year if they have failed to respond to the confirmation mailing, update their registration, or vote, I will work to limit those names from the federally required voter cancellation process.

The way to ensure as few as possible are removed from the rolls is to utilize tools such as online voter registration, enhanced voter registration at the Motor Vehicle Division, and resources such as the Electronic Registration Information Center (ERIC), of which New Mexico is a member state. ERIC allows us to better track who has moved and who needs to update their registration, and to notify those individuals when an update is needed. Combined with tools that make it easy to update registration or vote, my hope is to keep this list of removed voters as small as possible, and limited only to those who have permanently moved from New Mexico but have failed to cancel their voter registration accordingly.

**State Auditor - Respondent - Bill McCamley****QUESTION 1:**

As State Auditor, what is ONE critical issue for New Mexicans that you will champion in your first year in office? Why have you selected this issue and what specific steps would you take to address it? Why do you think these initiatives/policies will be successful and how will you evaluate their success?

**INH RATING of this Response**

0-1= Poor, 1-2=Good, 2-3=Excellent

Ideology	Knowledge of topic	Quality of Solutions offered
2.70	2.81	2.70

**ANSWER: BILL MCCAMLEY**

Warning, this answer will be very long and nerdy. I apologize in advance.

The most critical issue for this state has to be using some of our Wall St money to fund quality early childhood education for every 3 and 4 year old. It is the one biggest thing that we can do to increase quality of life for all New Mexicans.

I chose this issue because of data. There is conclusive evidence showing that the effect of Early Childhood Education funding does not fade over time and creates enhanced learning opportunities for students at all income levels. This is especially important in a state where 72% of babies are born in to Medicaid funded programs.

The effects of Early Childhood do not stop in elementary school. Dr James Heckman, who won a Nobel Prize in 2000 for his work in economics, shows that resources spent on these programs improve health outcomes and increase economic opportunities for kids. These result in direct benefits to the taxpayer as less money needs to be spent on prisons, government healthcare, and economic support programs, combined with greater tax revenue from more people getting better jobs, results in a 13% return on investment. Currently, over 96% of our Wall St money is only invested in standard programs, resulting in a 7%-8% rate of return.

The Auditor's job is to point out how taxpayer funds are spent efficiently and effectively. If all of the data shows that there is a better way to invest money that is owned by all of us, and is widely supported by New Mexicans (the last poll showed a 71% approval rate for the proposal), then it would be one of my main missions to make the fiscal argument for plan. Over the past few years, the Senate Finance Committee has killed the proposal based on worries about using our financial resources imprudently. A real and deep examination of how national trends would be translated to New Mexico's financial situation would hopefully help move the proposal forward where it has failed before.

Furthermore, another of the arguments against the Early Childhood proposal is that there is no plan for how the money could be used. The Auditor's office could assist the state with developing best practice parameters on how funding could be implemented so that education for three and four year olds could be most effective, end up with the best possible outcomes for kids and parents, and give the taxpayers their best possible return on their investment.

Evaluation would have to be constant, but should be fairly easy to do after only a year or two. If data points on special education participation, reading scores, etc. don't fit what other states



have seen, then obviously New Mexico programs should be examined to see what is going well and what can be improved.

### QUESTION 2:

In 2017, State Auditor Tim Keller issued an executive order affecting the Office of the State Auditor that helped New Mexico businesses compete for small procurement contracts that do not fall under state procurement laws due to their size. Those provisions applied only to the Office of the State Auditor and not other areas of the state government. As auditor, will you maintain those rules to help ensure local NM businesses have opportunities to compete for these small contracts? In what ways can your office influence other agency heads to adopt similar rules?

#### INH RATING of this Response

0-1= Poor, 1-2=Good, 2-3=Excellent

Ideology	Knowledge of topic	Quality of Solutions offered
2.56	2.22	2.04

### ANSWER: BILL MCCAMLEY

I will. Furthermore, Keller's office did an excellent job in pointing out the effects of "leakage" in New Mexico when contracts are given to out of state corporations. I will work hard to continue that work and make sure that the information is presented and available to state and local officials so that they can use it when making supply and service decisions when contracting.

### QUESTION 3:

In what ways will you, as State Auditor increase and improve transparency from your office to the general public?

#### INH RATING of this Response

0-1= Poor, 1-2=Good, 2-3=Excellent

Ideology	Knowledge of topic	Quality of Solutions offered
2.63	2.56	2.44

### ANSWER: BILL MCCAMLEY

First, my office will proactively enforce the Freedom of Information Act and make sure that all requests are processed as efficiently and effectively as possible. My administration will not treat that as a burden, but as positive way for us to make sure that they public has trust in our government institutions.

Furthermore, we will continue Tim Keller's excellent work in making sure that all state and local agencies are up to date with all new regulations like the recent Governmental Accounting Standards Board rule requiring disclosure by local governments of tax abatement information so that the public can judge whether or not carve outs are worth it to the community.

Lastly, in my history as a public official I have always made it a priority to be available to anyone who wishes to discuss any topic. As an example, my personal email and cell phone number have always been available online (as they are now). I will make sure to continue these practices.

#### **QUESTION 4:**

What specific steps did you take in your previous positions to ensure proportional representation of traditionally underrepresented groups (women, People of Color (POC), LGBT+ individuals, individuals with disabilities) in your businesses/firms/administrations? What lessons would you bring with you to the State Auditor's Office to improve representation in your administration and the state more widely?

#### **INH RATING of this Response**

**0-1= Poor, 1-2=Good, 2-3=Excellent**

<b>Ideology</b>	<b>Knowledge of topic</b>	<b>Quality of Solutions offered</b>
<b>2.80</b>	<b>2.72</b>	<b>2.64</b>

#### **ANSWER: BILL MCCAMLEY**

The biggest staff I ever oversaw was as the President of the Associated Students of NMSU. There were roughly 12 people that I was responsible for hiring and firing. The majority were people of color, one was gay (at a time when this was still very controversial), and 5 were women. When I was the Chair of the Dona Ana County Commission, though our County manager was a white man, both Deputy Managers were people of color and one was a woman. Our Public Information Officer was an out gay man. As a State Representative this past year, I supported a leadership team that, outside of the Speaker of the House, entirely consisted of women of color. Furthermore, as Chair I asked for and got a woman of color (Linda Trujillo) appointed as my Vice-Chair.

I acted as part of the team in 2013 that started marrying same-sex couples, eventually forcing the Supreme Court to recognize marriage equality here by the end of the year. And I have been

a constant force as a legislator fighting things like terrible immigration actions and Trump's muslim ban.

As a straight, white, man I completely understand that it is part of my role as a manager to actively seek out people who can offer different opinions and perspectives. If I am elected, I will proactively seek to hire people who can make sure my office has those different opinions and are willing to share them in order to make our workplace a more diverse, accepting, and welcoming place.

**QUESTION 5:**

As State Auditor, what steps would you take to address prevention of and consequences for sexual misconduct in the workplace? Why do you think these specific efforts will be more successful than previous efforts at curbing rampant sexual misconduct?

**INH RATING of this Response**

0-1= Poor, 1-2=Good, 2-3=Excellent

Ideology	Knowledge of topic	Quality of Solutions offered
2.64	2.4	2.48

**ANSWER: BILL MCCAMLEY**

At the legislature, we have instituted new rules that have two specific changes over previous programs. First, all complaints are referred to outside lawyers for review. This makes sure that personal relationships are not taken into account when determining the validity of any complaint. Second, everyone goes through specific training on sexual misconduct. Frankly, for someone like me who has been fairly blind to this sort of thing, now being exposed to what others have gone through on a regular basis has been a huge eye opener.

If training has not happened in the Auditor's office by the time I am sworn in, it will in an expeditious manner. A culture of respect, taking all complaints seriously, and an active effort to train people in ways that disavow what used to be a previous culture of sexual misconduct will hopefully be the formula that makes a better place for all women (and men) who want to be successful without having to withstand abuse.

**QUESTION 6:**

Have you accepted campaign contributions from the following industries? If so why and are you willing to give them back and pledge not to accept additional contributions?

- a. Fossil fuel industry?
- b. The pharmaceutical industry?

- c. The NRA or gun lobby?
- d. The tobacco industry?

### INH RATING of this Response

0-1= Poor, 1-2=Good, 2-3=Excellent

Ideology	Knowledge of topic	Quality of Solutions offered
2.46	2.35	2.27

### ANSWER: BILL MCCAMLEY

To my knowledge, no.

### QUESTION 7:

New Mexico has gotten much better at publicly disclosing how much money it spends on tax breaks and who benefits, but the state still falls short in being able to determine if these incentives create jobs or produce any return on investments. As State Auditor what policies would you pursue that would allow lawmakers to see if these policies are creating jobs or helping certain groups or individuals?

### INH RATING of this Response

0-1= Poor, 1-2=Good, 2-3=Excellent

Ideology	Knowledge of topic	Quality of Solutions offered
2.72	2.60	2.63

### ANSWER: BILL MCCAMLEY

This topic has been a specialty of mine, as I have worked with Tim Keller and others to make sure that all new tax carve outs have sunset clauses (to make sure policies can be evaluated over time) and reporting requirements (so we know how much money is being given out) to make sure that we can hold these programs to be as accountable as possible.

As Auditor, I would strongly continue Tim Keller's efforts to shine a light on our tax giveaways. You can see his report here, and I will make sure that these efforts are continually updated and that both local and state governments are given information so that they can make policy that truly benefits the public.

## State Auditor - Respondent - Brian Colon

### QUESTION 1:

As State Auditor, what is ONE critical issue for New Mexicans that you will champion in your first year in office? Why have you selected this issue and what specific steps would you take to address it? Why do you think these initiatives/policies will be successful and how will you evaluate their success?

### INH RATING of this Response

0-1= Poor, 1-2=Good, 2-3=Excellent

Ideology	Knowledge of topic	Quality of Solutions offered
2.70	2.67	2.37

### ANSWER: BRIAN COLON

The ONE critical issue that I strongly support is the full review of current expenditures leading to an increase Pre-K programs including and especially the provision of health related services. This is a continuation of my long- standing work in early childhood education. I worked tirelessly for the passage of Constitutional Amendments 1 & 2 to provide statewide kindergarten education and increased compensation for educators. These continued investments and expansion in early childhood development, starting with home visitation, are paramount for our long-term success as a state.

Existing CYFD and PED government programs for early childhood care and education must be reviewed thoroughly. There is a great disparity from region to region, urban vs. rural, etc. The Office of the State Auditor (OSA) is in a perfect position to present the data to decision-makers about the return on the investment of various programs, which will create more focus on changes which will outpace existing returns. We already know the empirical data supports an increase in the investment.

Without question, there is a direct and proven relationship between Pre-K programs and the enhanced performance of students. According to A World- Class Education System: Beyond the Factory, "...[R]esearch shows that learning does not begin in kindergarten; brain development is most rapid in the first years of life. Findings from the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development's study of early child care demonstrated that children who were in high-quality care from birth through 54 months scored higher in language, reading and math than their peers who were in consistently low-quality care. Those who attend pre-K do better in school and are less likely to need special education services or have to repeat a grade, and are more likely to graduate from college and maintain stable jobs and families."

Future legislation must provide for the financial means to enhance the availability of Pre-K programs to young children statewide, expands the Pre- K programs to include three-year-old children, and streamlines the availability process and use of federal funds. State funded Pre-Kindergarten and Kindergarten-Plus initiatives are important strategies for school Readiness and should be expanded and adequately funded to cover all New Mexico children whose parents wish to enroll their children.

This is our future and it WILL happen. As State Auditor, I will not stop advocating until it does. I support an expanded use of financial educational resources and more efficient delivery of early childhood care and education throughout the State of New Mexico. We must consider cabinet-level direction of early childhood care and education providing for young children and enhancing early learning which will result in significant benefits from increased student achievement, higher attendance in schools, and improved graduation rates.

#### **QUESTION 2:**

In 2017, State Auditor Tim Keller issued an executive order affecting the Office of the State Auditor that helped New Mexico businesses compete for small procurement contracts that do not fall under state procurement laws due to their size. Those provisions applied only to the Office of the State Auditor and not other areas of the state government. As auditor, will you maintain those rules to help ensure local NM businesses have opportunities to compete for these small contracts? In what ways can your office influence other agency heads to adopt similar rules?

#### **INH RATING of this Response**

**0-1= Poor, 1-2=Good, 2-3=Excellent**

<b>Ideology</b>	<b>Knowledge of topic</b>	<b>Quality of Solutions offered</b>
<b>2.78</b>	<b>2.89</b>	<b>2.81</b>

#### **ANSWER: BRIAN COLON**

Without question, I will maintain Executive Order 2017-001 supporting New Mexico businesses to help local business in the procurement process. A large portion of the State Auditor's office spending falls below a financial threshold that gives New Mexico businesses an opportunity to compete for these smaller purchases as a result of the Executive Order. Further, I will continue to advocate for Senator Padilla's legislation that took this concept to the statewide level. Unfortunately, this legislation has been blocked by Republicans on more than one occasion.

The best way for the State Auditor's office to influence other agencies is to demonstrate leadership in an efficient and an effective way to procure goods and services. A strategy emphasizing the resources and outcomes of the Government Accountability Office of the State

Auditor’s office can be a useful source of data for future procurement contracts that can potentially be resourced locally. Appropriate legal and regulatory changes focusing on procurement utilizing New Mexico businesses will need to occur.

According the KRWG TV at New Mexico State University, the Executive Order contains several guidelines that will be useful in other state agencies adopting similar guidelines:“...The Executive Order lists three key items:

- 1) The OSA will compare price quotes on a pre-tax basis. This change will address the structural tax disadvantage New Mexico companies face when competing for state business. Many out-of-state companies pay a lower gross receipts tax, creating a disincentive to hire local companies in providing services.
- 2) The OSA will take reasonable steps to ensure that it reaches out to New Mexico businesses when seeking quotes. This applies to small purchases that do not go through a formal competitive procurement process but make up the majority of government spending.
- 3) State Auditor Tim Keller calls upon other agency heads to consider these steps as well. For these changes to have a broad impact to New Mexico’s economy, the administration would need to issue similar requirements across state government.”

This is an incredible foundation to build upon and I look forward to doing so.

**QUESTION 3:**

In what ways will you, as State Auditor increase and improve transparency from your office to the general public?

**INH RATING of this Response**

0-1= Poor, 1-2=Good, 2-3=Excellent

Ideology	Knowledge of topic	Quality of Solutions offered
2.67	2.78	2.63

**ANSWER: BRIAN COLON**

My vision of how to increase and improve transparency through the State Auditor’s office begins with the momentum created by our current New Mexico State Attorney General Hector Balderas and Albuquerque Mayor Tim Keller who both previously held the State Auditors position, there is tremendous potential in enhancing the effectiveness, transparency, and accountability in the use of state financial resources.

A strong area for potential growth/change is the future role that can be served by the recently created Government Accountability Office (GAO), a division within the Office of the State Auditor. The review by the GAO of the over 1,000 audits and financial reports submitted

annually by New Mexico state and local agencies is a solid starting point in enhancing the transparency and accountability of the use of public money.

The GAO utilizes a number of tools when reviewing the annual audits and reports submitted to the State Auditor's office. These tools include: 1) GAO Reports which aggregate and analyze trends revealed by audit information, thus providing an in-depth look at how are public dollars utilized. 2) Risk Advisories which provide notice of concerns regarding transparency, accountability, and compliance. 3) Risk Reviews which communicate issues of concern to state and local governmental agencies. 4) Transparency Reports which identify and discuss how public dollars are utilized. 5) GAO Bulletins which are technical in nature discussing new standards or regulations involving auditing and accounting.

Specifically, the New Mexico Office of the State Auditor website discusses the use of GAO Transparency Reports in enhancing the knowledge of the public on the use public funds, "...(Transparency Reports) discuss specific issues of interest that relate to how our public dollars are managed and spent. The purpose of Transparency Reports is to shed light on critical issues and trends in the areas of accurate and timely financial information from government, efficient use of resources, and equity. When a Transparency Report relies on compiled data, the GAO makes available the supporting data so that experts, academics and the general public can use it for other purposes."

Further enhancing the accessibility and timeliness of the GAO Transparency Reports for public use will be of the highest priority. Further, we need to identify resources to expand the GAO. Upon creation, then State Auditor Keller was able to dedicate one FTE to this division in the OSA, but I look forward to expanding this division in the future.

#### **QUESTION 4:**

What specific steps did you take in your previous positions to ensure proportional representation of traditionally underrepresented groups (women, People of Color (POC), LGBT+ individuals, individuals with disabilities) in your businesses/firms/administrations? What lessons would you bring with you to the State Auditor's Office to improve representation in your administration and the state more widely?

#### **INH RATING of this Response**

**0-1= Poor, 1-2=Good, 2-3=Excellent**

<b>Ideology</b>	<b>Knowledge of topic</b>	<b>Quality of Solutions offered</b>
<b>2.60</b>	<b>2.68</b>	<b>2.44</b>

**ANSWER: BRIAN COLON**



The specific steps I have taken in my previous positions is to make sure that the makeup and leadership of the organizations included underrepresented groups. When the community looks at companies and organizations that I have been affiliated with they should feel like they are looking in a mirror, especially those who identify with those who often don't have a voice and are marginalized. I've mentored countless young women and men of color and it has been particularly rewarding to watch them as they grew into positions of capacity and then embrace those same values that I cherish.

As chair of the Democratic Party of New Mexico, I had great opportunities to execute on many "firsts"—one of the first chairs in the country to support same sex marriage, force seats in our federal delegation that were held by women of color—specifically a Native American woman of color.

I've always been deeply committed to engaging underrepresented communities in leadership roles. Personally, I am fortunate to have a very diverse heritage and life. I am Hispanic and my wife is an immigrant from the Philippines and teaches at Van Buren Middle School in the International District. Her STEM classes are filled everyday with students from many different countries around the world. I grew up in a home with two parents who were disabled and buried my father (age 49) when I was a teenager as a result of his disability.

Whether it was during my time in leadership at the University of New Mexico, working with state government and the community for the appointment and election of racially diverse judges who reflect our community or when engaging in community dialogue, I've always been particularly sensitive to racial equity.

As a person of color, I understand the need to elect individuals to office and ensure that those that lead our city understand the struggle our residents face. I grew up in New Mexico, went to school in New Mexico and have always fought on behalf of our communities. Albuquerque has one of the highest concentration of urban-indigenous people and is a minority majority community. If we are serious about supporting the movement for black, brown and indigenous lives, we must continue to support and elect people of color, women, and queer people for office. As mayor I will stand by these values. We can no longer settle for the status quo.

Without question, I will support equity as the Auditor of the State of New Mexico. Respecting the wonderful diversity that makes up our state is among the highest priorities I hold. I will implement policies that ensure our state government truly serves our community. It is this unique blend of the backgrounds and ancestry of the residents of our city the State of New Mexico the special place that it is.

As the State Auditor, I will fully espouse and firmly embrace policy of equality and respect for the entire community celebrating the wonderful diversity that makes up our city. A community engagement campaign spearheaded by the State Auditor's office can stress the message of equality for all residents beginning with social media and integrated with similar national programs.

As Auditor, the State of New Mexico will celebrate diversity from inside my office and to the 33 counties of New Mexico.

**QUESTION 5:**

As State Auditor, what steps would you take to address prevention of and consequences for sexual misconduct in the workplace? Why do you think these specific efforts will be more successful than previous efforts at curbing rampant sexual misconduct?

**INH RATING of this Response**

0-1= Poor, 1-2=Good, 2-3=Excellent

Ideology	Knowledge of topic	Quality of Solutions offered
2.76	2.76	2.64

**ANSWER: BRIAN COLON**

As the State Auditor, I will adopt a zero tolerance level for sexual misconduct in the workplace. A number of steps will be undertaken to reduce the risk of sexual harassment from occurring. A clear sexual harassment policy and training program will be adopted as well as all employees, supervisors, and managers will be trained extensively.

The specific efforts required to effectively prevent sexual harassment must be comprehensive in scope. The HR Daily Advisor provides an exhaustive list of policies to prevent sexual harassment, which we will strive to implement in toto:

“ Create and communicate a clear anti-harassment policy, including anti- retaliation components. Get legal advice on this policy to ensure it is complete and that it complies with all federal, state, and local laws. Once complete, ensure that your policy is in the employee handbook and that every employee has a copy.

Conduct sexual harassment training and retraining for everyone, especially all supervisors and managers, on at least an annual basis. Everyone in the organization should understand what sexual harassment is and what to do if it occurs. (Note: in some states this training is mandatory.)

Ensure managers and supervisors understand their obligation to maintain zero tolerance for harassment in the workplace.

Monitor emails and other electronic communications to scan for harassing content. Monitor behavior too. It is important as an employer to be on the lookout for inappropriate behavior and stop it right away.

Ensure employees know their options if they find themselves in such a situation. Employees should know that they have the right to request the behavior to stop (and they should do so if possible). But employees should also know what to do next if they don't feel safe asking the person or people involved to stop, or if doing so does not stop the unwanted behavior.

Clearly define the process to submit a complaint, including a process for situations where the direct supervisor can be bypassed if necessary.

Define clear consequences for such behavior and consistently apply these when harassing behavior is discovered.

Cultivate a culture where sexual harassment is not welcome or tolerated. This might include many things. For example:

- Ensure that work-sponsored activities after hours are professional in nature.
- Ensure that supervisors and managers know where to draw the line with employees in terms of tolerating off-color jokes and other offensive material. The workplace is not a place for crude jokes.
- If a complaint comes in, treat it with complete care and always investigate. Treat every complaint seriously.
- If harassment is discovered, take immediate and appropriate action to ensure it doesn't happen again, including disciplining or even terminating the employee(s) responsible.
- Do not tolerate retaliatory behavior against someone who has filed a complaint.

Have a clear process for investigating any complaint of harassment. If a complaint comes in, look into it immediately and, if necessary, take steps to ensure the behavior stops while the investigation is ongoing. Take every complaint seriously.”

#### QUESTION 6:

Have you accepted campaign contributions from the following industries? If so why and are you willing to give them back and pledge not to accept additional contributions?

#### INH RATING of this Response

0-1= Poor, 1-2=Good, 2-3=Excellent

Ideology	Knowledge of topic	Quality of Solutions offered
2.71	2.61	2.64

#### ANSWER: BRIAN COLON

- a. Fossil fuel industry? No
- b. The pharmaceutical industry? No
- c. The NRA or gun lobby? No
- d. The tobacco industry? No

**QUESTION 7:**

New Mexico has gotten much better at publicly disclosing how much money it spends on tax breaks and who benefits, but the state still falls short in being able to determine if these incentives create jobs or produce any return on investments. As State Auditor what policies would you pursue that would allow lawmakers to see if these policies are creating jobs or helping certain groups or individuals?

**INH RATING of this Response**

0-1= Poor, 1-2=Good, 2-3=Excellent

Ideology	Knowledge of topic	Quality of Solutions offered
2.67	2.63	2.42

**ANSWER: BRIAN COLON**

The policies I would pursue to enhance job creation and provide returns on investment (ROI) are consistent with the role of the Auditor for the State of New Mexico being a guardian of the welfare, quality of life, and general well-being of the residents. That responsibility grew tremendously for the past eleven years under previous State Auditor's Balderas and Keller. In the Balderas' years, the office truly protected New Mexico's taxpayers by fighting waste, fraud and abuse and then in the Keller years the office became an outstanding opportunity to collect data and advance important public policies. My personal goal is to build on both of those areas while continuing to increase awareness about taxpayers' ability to use that office for reporting and assisting with the most effective use of public funds through state lawmakers.

As State Auditor, I will continue to accumulate and utilize the data from the 2017 report of the Office of State Auditor (OSA) that indicated more than \$1 billion in tax breaks exist under our current state tax policy. Transparency and reporting are critical components that are currently weak under our system. Several key points surface. Critical aspects of the OSA report, including possible legislative solutions are described as follows:

"Gross receipts taxes make up one-quarter of the state's tax breaks. Comprehensive tax reform should include an assessment of all exemptions to all types of taxes, including those given to the extractive industry...of 180 tax breaks the OSA identified, 23 of them have no data available. Lack of transparency on tax breaks stems in part from the Taxpayer Protection Act. For example, information on large tax breaks in the uranium industry is confidential because fewer than three companies use the tax breaks...The OSA recommends that, in addition to the current effort to develop a model for changes to the tax code, the New Mexico Legislature conduct an in-depth examination of tax programs and their relative ROIs.

OSA recommends that, in addition to the current effort to develop a model for changes to the tax code, the New Mexico Legislature conduct an in-depth examination of tax programs and their relative ROIs.

The GAO Transparency Report continues with a description on the challenges that can be undertaken to provide the necessary information for effective tax policy:

“In compiling this report, the OSA was faced with a lack of transparency on tax break data that stems in part from privacy provisions in the Tax Administration Act. For example, in the uranium industry, little information was shared because fewer than three taxpayers avail themselves of these tax breaks. The OSA relied on 2015 data for the uranium hexafluoride deduction, but we have no other data for the uranium industry. The Legislature should consider whether the beneficiaries of such generous tax incentives should provide appropriate exceptions to some of their privacy rights so that the public can assess their fiscal impact and return on investment.”

We can and will do better in terms of providing a platform that requires an appropriate and transparent analysis of the ROI for tax breaks for these special interest corporations/sectors.

## State Treasurer - Respondent - Arthur Castillo

### QUESTION 1:

As State Treasurer, how will you balance risk and net economic return for state investments? What is your strategy for achieving this balance and why will your strategy be effective?

### INH RATING of this Response

0-1= Poor, 1-2=Good, 2-3=Excellent

Ideology	Knowledge of topic	Quality of Solutions offered
2.39	2.11	1.89

### ANSWER: ARTHUR CASTILLO

The fact that the funds that the State Treasurer handles are the citizens' funds, my position is that the most important phase of the state's banker is to put safety first. I do not intend to compromise the integrity of the citizens' funds regardless of any political agenda. I intend to hire the most competent investment officer and staff, where as a team will evaluate where the state treasurer's office is investing the state's funds to decide on who is first, the safest, then who will give us the highest rate of return while staying within the guidelines mandated by federal law and state statutes. There will also be other criteria such as local, minority businesses who are proven to be safe and reliable worthy of the trust we have in them with the citizens' funds.

### QUESTION 2:

What does “progressive economic policy” mean to you? What measures would you take to implement sound “progressive economic policy” as the state’s banker?

### INH RATING of this Response

0-1= Poor, 1-2=Good, 2-3=Excellent

Ideology	Knowledge of topic	Quality of Solutions offered
2.33	2.61	2.11

### ANSWER: ARTHUR CASTILLO

The term “progressive economic policy” brings to mind the redistribution of wealth and more government control. Besides the redistribution of wealth, progressive economic policy would also include some progressive taxes, more social services, medical assistance and other tax based public funding. Through progressive economic policy would usher in more legislation to protect employees’ rights, antitrust laws and more control of the markets through increased government control. Marxism nearly parallels the progressive economic policy by moving towards a classless society. As noted, many of the key points of progressive economic policy are necessary to control an out-of-control economic environment. Throughout history economic strategies had to be somewhat flexible to address the financial climate of the time. The start of the 19th century was dominated by the classical economist line of thinking was used during that period, which was considered to be the pre-industrial era. The Progressive Era was one of prosperity that occurred after the 1893 depression that ended in 1897. During the 19th century for example, the classical economist method proved to be an effective method yet the progressive policy used after the depression from a pre-industrial to industrial state helped bring balance to the economy. Henry Ford’s assembly line method of producing a product that the average person could purchase, giving the workers a living wage of \$5 per day, which at that time was a good wage. This increased profits to the stockholders, helped the economy prosper and could have had an effect on expanding the middle class. Several changes and adjustments were necessary to bring balance to the economic status. Throughout the 20th century government programs were established to put citizens back to work; regulatory offices and commissions were established, labor unions were formed to assist in giving a balance to the economy and protect the working class, farms and ranches. The government injected funds to get programs started to help the economy. Some of these programs were later eliminated because they were no longer a useful economic tool. This move appeared to be necessary to bring balance to the fragile economic system. Progressive economic policies are necessary to stabilize and bring back a healthy economy whereas conservative policies may be necessary to keep the economy in balance. Other factors that affect our economic structure are the economics of other countries, trade balance and imbalance in which this country has very little if no control. Imports and Exports also have an effect on the economy that any fluctuation either could either help or devastate economic balance. Therefore I cannot fully support one or the

other policy due to the number of factors and variables involved plus the outside influences that affect our economy. The State Treasurer's' function is not to choose what policy is the best but what policy is necessary to protect the citizens' funds and not compromise the integrity of the office that is here to perform a safe and sane safeguarding of the treasury.

### QUESTION 3:

How will you increase transparency in state investments? Why are these forms of transparency particularly important?

#### INH RATING of this Response

0-1= Poor, 1-2=Good, 2-3=Excellent

Ideology	Knowledge of topic	Quality of Solutions offered
2.06	2.11	1.95

### ANSWER: ARTHUR CASTILLO

Transparency is necessary to ensure that those entrusted with the government's funds are keeping in line the legal and prudent investments/handling of the citizens' funds. I will request that the state auditor conduct an audit to evaluate the solvency of the bank, and to indicate what the strengths the current policies have and to improve on those necessary to be updated. As I go into office I do not want to make "wholesale" changes. Some treasurers were not as concerned for the welfare of the office for reasons of their own. Many treasurers were concerned with the health of the office and did make positive changes. But as times change some policies may need to be updated to improve the effectiveness of the office. As the financial climate changes and adjusts, the office of the state treasurer should be ready to protect and improve the bank's balance.

### QUESTION 4:

The State Treasurer Website has a statement that the State Treasurer's Office is committed to focusing on financial empowerment for women by developing and implementing programs and initiatives that give women the tools they need to succeed in the workplace and at home. What programs does the Office of the State Treasurer's office offer, to whom, and how often are these programs offered?

#### INH RATING of this Response

0-1= Poor, 1-2=Good, 2-3=Excellent

Ideology	Knowledge of topic	Quality of Solutions offered
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2.17	1.89	1.79
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**ANSWER: ARTHUR CASTILLO**

The office of the State Treasurer will continue to encourage women to progress and help balance out discrepancies caused by the gender gap. History has shown that women have progressed in the workplace and that startup businesses by women are increasing. The State Treasurer's office will continue to provide direction to educational programs, direction to funding resources and other directions for women to bridge the gender gap. Many of these programs offered may also provide direction for other minorities to improve their chances of greater success. As many treasurers before me, the welfare and equality of New Mexico's citizens is a positive step forward to attract new businesses, industry and to make an attractive economic environment to those skilled and educated citizens so they do not leave the state in pursuit of better lifestyles that are afforded to them in other states.

**QUESTION 5:**

Investment policies of the state require that state funds be invested prudently, with three characteristics in mind, safety, quality and return. What percentage of our state's investments under your control will be invested in 'green' funds? (Green funds take advantage of investments in companies that support environmental causes, do not pollute and do no harm to the earth or environment.)

**INH RATING of this Response**

0-1= Poor, 1-2=Good, 2-3=Excellent

Ideology	Knowledge of topic	Quality of Solutions offered
2.11	2.17	1.68

**ANSWER: ARTHUR CASTILLO**

Green funding is an important issue because in funding of green projects does and continues to have a positive influence on our environment. My office will encourage in investing in programs that are good for the welfare of New Mexico but the treasurer cannot earmark funds dedicated to any specific projects that are not fully controlled by the treasurer's' office. My office will continue with the three characteristics of safety, quality and return of investments. The treasurer's office does not have the authority to mandate where other agencies funds are being spent. As a native New Mexican I am committed to keeping the funds entrusted to me to be safe and in New Mexico as much as legally possible.



**QUESTION 6:**

As State Treasurer, what is ONE critical issue for New Mexicans that you will champion in your first year in office? Why have you selected this issue and what specific steps would you take to address it? Why do you think these initiatives/policies will be successful and how will you evaluate their success?

**INH RATING of this Response**

0-1= Poor, 1-2=Good, 2-3=Excellent

Ideology	Knowledge of topic	Quality of Solutions offered
1.94	1.72	1.53

**ANSWER: ARTHUR CASTILLO**

The goal of my first year in office will be to evaluate the needs of the office to perform a safe and effective money management program. This will be done by the employment of highly qualified leaders who are dedicated to the goal of the State Treasurer's Office. It is my goal not to be a leader of followers but a leader of leaders.

**QUESTION 7:**

Have you accepted campaign contributions from the following industries? If so why and are you willing to give them back and pledge not to accept additional contributions?

- a. Fossil fuel and mining industry?
- b. The pharmaceutical industry?
- c. The NRA or gun lobby?
- d. The tobacco industry?

**INH RATING of this Response**

0-1= Poor, 1-2=Good, 2-3=Excellent

Ideology	Knowledge of topic	Quality of Solutions offered
2.79	2.69	2.65

**ANSWER: ARTHUR CASTILLO**

No to all of the above.

## Attorney General - Respondent - Hector Balderas

### QUESTION 1:

As Attorney General, what is ONE critical issue for New Mexicans that you will champion in your first year in office? Why have you selected this issue and what specific steps would you take to address it? Why do you think these initiatives/policies will be successful and how will you evaluate their success?

### INH RATING of this Response

0-1= Poor, 1-2=Good, 2-3=Excellent

Ideology	Knowledge of topic	Quality of Solutions offered
2.47	2.24	2.17

### ANSWER: HECTOR BALDERAS

As Attorney General, I have a very simple focus: to create safe communities so that we can have prosperous communities in New Mexico. My focus on safety is not just centered on criminal prosecutions, but rather it is a holistic approach to protecting vulnerable people. The same person who might be the victim of domestic violence one day is the same person who is going to be victimized by an predatory lender the next; it is simply the nature of the social determinants that New Mexico struggles with every single day. So my focus has been, and will continue to be, on empowering those vulnerable individuals with everything from financial literacy training to prosecuting individuals who commit crimes against them or businesses who prey on them. New Mexico will never be Silicon Valley by just focusing on economic development, so by taking this approach, I believe we can start with making New Mexicans feel safe and creating environments in which they can truly thrive.

### QUESTION 2:

On January 16, 2018, 22 Attorneys General across the U.S, including New Mexico's, filed a multistate lawsuit to block the Federal Communications Commission's (FCC) decision to repeal net neutrality last year. If elected, would you support this multistate lawsuit and, as Attorney General, how would you continue the fight to ensure equal access to content for all New Mexicans?

**INH RATING of this Response**

0-1= Poor, 1-2=Good, 2-3=Excellent

Ideology	Knowledge of topic	Quality of Solutions offered
2.73	2.66	2.48

**ANSWER: HECTOR BALDERAS**

I filed this lawsuit because I believe that a free and open internet is critical and based on fundamental American principles of equality and free expression. New Mexico already has a significant digital divide that keeps underrepresented communities from accessing the internet, and the FCC's decision will only widen that gap. As Attorney General I will continue this fight to ensure that communities from Deming to Raton have equal access to the same quality of internet and whatever content they choose.

**QUESTION 3:**

Corresponding with national initiatives focusing on human trafficking, New Mexico has recently ramped up efforts to combat human trafficking in the state. Which efforts would you like to see continue and why? What changes would you make, if any, as Attorney General?

**INH RATING of this Response**

0-1= Poor, 1-2=Good, 2-3=Excellent

Ideology	Knowledge of topic	Quality of Solutions offered
2.63	2.67	2.50

**ANSWER: HECTOR BALDERAS**

When I started my first term as Attorney General, one of my top priorities was to strengthen the office's anti-human trafficking efforts. Human trafficking is truly a form of modern day slavery and one of the darkest crimes, which we think of happening in the shadows, but really it's happening everyday in our State in plain site. As Attorney General, I will not only continue to aggressively prosecute human traffickers, but I will also continue to work with and support our service provider partners, who perform the most valuable services in preventing trafficking, as well as ensuring that survivors have the compassion and support they need to recover. As with many other social ills plaguing New Mexican communities, we cannot just prosecute our way out of the problem; we need comprehensive treatment resources that can truly heal our communities.

**QUESTION 4:**

According to the FBI and the Office of the State Auditor, New Mexican women live in a state that has the 4th highest rate of rapes and the 3rd highest frequency of sexual assaults. A central responsibility of the Office of Attorney General is the victims of crimes. As Attorney General, what steps would you take to increase support for victims of rape and assault throughout the criminal legal process? How would you assess the effectiveness of your efforts?

**INH RATING of this Response**

0-1= Poor, 1-2=Good, 2-3=Excellent

Ideology	Knowledge of topic	Quality of Solutions offered
2.83	2.73	2.60

**ANSWER: HECTOR BALDERAS**

I believe we need a fundamental overhaul of the way that we approach prevention, investigation, and prosecution of violence, and especially sexual violence, against women. Sadly, our institutions of government not only tend to perpetuate a culture of violence toward women, but even worse, victimizes survivors through the process. We need to change the way we think about and act on sexual violence against women at every step in the process, first to tear down barriers to reporting, then ensuring that cases are processed thoroughly and expediently, so that survivors are not left to languish in the system, wondering when, or if, they will ever see justice served.

In my first term in office, we have really emphasized providing services to survivors of sexual violence, as well as victims of all crimes really. We expanded our services unit and they are available statewide and to anyone, not just someone impacted by a case our office is handling. Whether it is a school shooting in Aztec or a rape case in Valencia County, we have services available to victims and survivors.

With respect to sexual violence against women specifically, my office has emphasized a survivor centric model from day one. I truly believe that starts with the culture in our office, and so women represent a significant percentage of our management team, specifically our Criminal Deputy, the former Domestic Violence Czar, and our Special Prosecutions Director in this context. They set the tone in approaching sexual violence cases, which includes a huge focus on survivor support. Ultimately we measure our impact on the survivors who we seek justice for and the impact our work has on their lives. There is so much work to be done in this space, and I look forward to doing my part to shift the culture and the way our government approaches sexual violence against women.

**QUESTION 5:**

In 2003, the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo Division was created under the auspices of the Office of the Attorney General. Its primary mission was to address shortcomings in the implementation of The Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo in New Mexico. As a candidate for Attorney General, what does “full observation and implementation” of this treaty mean to you and how would you implement these changes to meet our state’s commitments to land grants, acequias, and Native American communities?

### INH RATING of this Response

0-1= Poor, 1-2=Good, 2-3=Excellent

Ideology	Knowledge of topic	Quality of Solutions offered
2.83	2.93	2.73

### ANSWER: HECTOR BALDERAS

The Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo is not only the legal foundation of New Mexico’s statehood, but it is really a codification of our unique cultural identity and heritage. My office has worked very diligently with the legislature to ensure adequate funding for our Division, which admittedly has been a challenge from year to year with our state facing so many funding challenges. That said, with or without the legislature’s support, I will continue to fight on behalf of rural communities, land grant communities, and Native American communities.

As the State’s public interest law firm, supporting the values of these communities is fundamental to our mission. Whether it’s providing legal advice on Open Meetings Act compliance to a small acequia association, investigating transactional fraud against a land grant or a Pueblo, or working with tribal and land grant leaders to prevent the theft of cultural patrimony, my office is committed to supporting these communities. Coming from a rural homestead village that was surrounded by land grants and Native American communities, I know that the Treaty is not just some ancient document, but is really a foundation for life in 2018. I understand the deep significance of the Treaty and I will continue to reinforce its significance in the work of our office.

### QUESTION 6:

What specific steps did you take in your previous positions to ensure proportional representation of traditionally underrepresented groups (women, POC or People of Color, LGBT+ individuals, individuals with disabilities) in your businesses/firms/administrations? What lessons would you bring with you to improve representation in your administration and the state more widely?

### INH RATING of this Response

0-1= Poor, 1-2=Good, 2-3=Excellent

Ideology	Knowledge of topic	Quality of Solutions offered
2.93	2.93	2.73

**ANSWER: HECTOR BALDERAS**

Literally the single reason I went into public service was because I have witnessed first hand the significant, generational injustices suffered by underrepresented communities, and I wanted to give them a voice. I was raised by a Hispanic single mother on public assistance, and I remember her being afraid of even going into our school to see how her kids were doing in school. As I made my way through school and became an attorney, I realized that I could influence how people were treated by those in power, and really that it was my duty to do that. So when I finished law school, and after a brief stint of prosecuting domestic violence cases in Albuquerque, I returned home to Wagon Mound and ran for public office.

As a state legislator, I focused on working on bills that would address domestic violence issues, marriage equality issues, and criminal justice reform. As State Auditor, I focused on rooting out government corruption, so that those who were vulnerable would not be victimized by their own government. Now as Attorney General, I continue to carry my original mission.

That starts with ensuring that our office is reflective of, and represented by, traditionally underrepresented communities. I am proud that our management team is over 70% women, and that our two deputies are not only women, but Hispanic, and are leaders in their fields. I truly believe that this sets the tone for the work that we do and how we work on behalf of underrepresented populations. We focus our work on cases that disproportionately affect these communities, which unfortunately is almost the general population in New Mexico. We also work hard at the federal level to ensure that communities across the country are treated equally and protected from bigotry and discrimination. Whether it's fighting to strike down so called "bathroom laws" to ensure that trans individuals are safe and fairly treated, fighting to ensure that public accommodations serve same sex couples equally, or fighting to ensure that women can make the choices they want to make about their health, we are engaged and fighting on behalf of those communities.

Unfortunately the current political climate has taken our nation a step backwards, and we are at a very critical time in the fight for equality. I look forward to continuing this fight and giving a voice to those who have been silenced for too long.

**QUESTION 7:**

New Mexico has one of the highest drug overdose death rates in the U.S. As Attorney General, what would a comprehensive strategy to address the opioid crisis look like to you? What previous initiatives would you continue and which new initiatives would you pursue, and why?

**INH RATING of this Response**

0-1= Poor, 1-2=Good, 2-3=Excellent

Ideology	Knowledge of topic	Quality of Solutions offered
2.7	2.77	2.67

ANSWER: **HECTOR BALDERAS**

Unfortunately New Mexico has experienced the generational effects of heroin and opioid abuse well before the opioid crisis became a national focus, so sadly we are no strangers to the devastation that abuse has wrought in our communities. As Attorney General, I have created Project OPEN, which is focused on a three prong approach: prevention, prosecution, and public awareness. As part of our prevention, we work in schools and communities to work on the preventing problems that lead to substance abuse. We conduct trainings that emphasize health and safety, which will hopefully prevent younger generations from ever abusing opioids. We also focus on other prevention techniques such as drug take backs.

With respect to prosecution, we are focused on holding every actor in the opioid supply chain accountable for their part in this epidemic. We are currently currently suing both manufacturers and suppliers of opioids for their decades long effort to deceive doctors and patients about the addictive properties of these dangerous drugs. Our theory of accountability is simple: if you are going to make billions of dollars off of prescription drugs, then for every pill sold you are going to set aside resources for treatment and law enforcement in our communities. We are also pursuing pill mills and doctors who are profiting off of overprescribing in our state by bringing civil cases to take away their licenses, as well as bringing criminal cases where appropriate.

Finally, with respect to public awareness, my office has been, and continues to tour the state hosting public awareness events about this issue. We partner with law enforcement, members of the medical community, and service providers to provide comprehensive community forums on the dangers of opioids and the work that we can all do together to end the epidemic in New Mexico.

## Commissioner of Public Lands - Respondent - Garrett VeneKlasen

### QUESTION 1:

As State Commissioner of Public Lands, what is ONE critical issue for New Mexicans that you will champion in your first year in office? Why have you selected this issue and what specific steps would you take to address it? Why do you think these initiatives/policies will be successful and how will you evaluate their success?

### INH RATING of this Response

0-1= Poor, 1-2=Good, 2-3=Excellent

Ideology	Knowledge of topic	Quality of Solutions offered
2.63	2.58	2.42

**ANSWER: GARRETT VENEKLASEN**

There are so many issues to address with this 19th century agency, but the one that has to be addressed before all others is agency transparency/accountability. The NM Commissioner of Public Lands - with virtually no mandated transparency/accountability - has unfettered authority to manage or mismanage billions of dollars of public natural resources. The agency has a long history of cronyism, self dealing and utter corruption. This must end immediately. High standards of transparency and accountability must be PERMANENTLY enacted through statute and law. The agency must immediately transition from a culture of public exclusion to public inclusion. The website needs to be user-friendly, with an interactive statewide map showing all commercial leases, mineral leases, grazing leases, etc. You should be able to zoom in to your particular county and know exactly what is happening with SLO business in real time. Individual oil & gas leases, for example, should have real time information on what fluids they are injecting into their wells, the amount of water they are using and the exact amount of oil and wet gases they are producing. Regional public meetings should be held often by the SLO to seek public input on the use and management of the SLO lands in those regions. Any major development plans by the SLO should be subject to public comment and public inclusion as they are on national public lands. The enactment of a state environmental policy act (mirroring the National Environmental Policy Act) will ensure that this process is a PERMANENT standard for the agency

**QUESTION 2:**

Will you support coyote killing contests and rattlesnake roundups on State Trust Lands?

**INH RATING of this Response**

0-1= Poor, 1-2=Good, 2-3=Excellent

Ideology	Knowledge of topic	Quality of Solutions offered
2.52	2.52	2.43

**ANSWER: GARRETT VENEKLASEN**

I am a hunter, but think animal killing contests are abhorrent. Ditto for rattlesnake roundups. Both practices will be immediately banned if I am elected and I will happily testify in committee to support PERMANENT legislative bans on both issues. ALL native wildlife MUST be managed to the same gold standard in New Mexico. The New Mexico Department of Game and Fish (NMDGF) seems solely focused on game animals that make the agency money. I will amend



the NMDGF/SLO access lease (no commissioner in the history of NM has done this) to demand the same protected status management criteria given to game animals for ALL native wildlife. My extensive background in wildlife management (I was the Southwest Director for Trout Unlimited and the Executive Director of the NM Wildlife Federation) is ideally suited to exact progressive wildlife management practices on state trust lands.

**QUESTION 3:**

The effects of climate change and the gradual decrease in demand for fossil fuels is affecting the future revenue that State Trust Lands provide for schools and public hospitals in NM. What is your plan, as the Commissioner of NM State Trust Lands, to find new ways to raise revenue while protecting the resources for future generations?

**INH RATING of this Response**

0-1= Poor, 1-2=Good, 2-3=Excellent

Ideology	Knowledge of topic	Quality of Solutions offered
2.79	2.75	2.75

**ANSWER: GARRETT VENEKLASSEN**

New Mexico should be the global leader in renewable energy. As a state we must commit to 100% renewable energy electric generation.

As Commissioner, I will ambitiously increase the production of renewable energy on state trust lands. This is a core component of my vision for the office.

With 9 million acres of state trust lands scattered throughout the state, the State Land Office must be at the forefront of a renewable energy revolution in New Mexico.

Comprehensive planning and collaboration are critical if we are to reach a state renewable energy portfolio in excess of 50% by 2030. Bringing together the best and brightest NGO minds, industry leaders, and forward thinking elected officials to actually draft an updated and comprehensive plan is critical in order to fast track the implantation of such a plan. For the renewable energy industry, the State Land Office is arguably the best business partner for an ambitious and visionary large scale renewable investment in the state. The NM Commissioner of Public Lands has the flexibility to allow industry to build out their infrastructure with reduced initial land lease expenses and only begin paying the Land Office when they are actually producing energy. This is a huge incentive for the industry.

As Commissioner, I will also play a personal, active role in lobbying the legislature to push through an ambitious renewable energy portfolio standard. The Commissioner, the Governor, legislative leadership, PRC members, and congressional delegates will all need to work together to reach our common goals. This will take close communication and collaboration if our high goals are to be realized, and I look forward to playing a strong role in this collaboration.

Building to scale will also require collaboration with Tribes, the Department of the Interior, and private landowners, especially when it comes to the planning and placement of new utility lines. Infrastructure build out and line placement must meet high environmental standards that mitigate habitat degradation/fragmentation and other related impacts.

Annually, the outdoor recreation industry in New Mexico generates \$9.9 billion.

The State Land Office to this point has completely missed the mark on ecotourism and outdoor recreation. Its outdoor recreation permitting process is onerous and restrictive. Access into state lands and recreational use is highly discouraged. Camping opportunities are almost non-existent.

Along with renewable energy production, I view expanded eco-tourism and outdoor recreation opportunities as an integral part of leveraging our public lands to support education and healthcare in our state.

Locations such as White Peak, the Luera Mountains, Sierra Grande, select lands in the bootheel, and lands like the tract next to Clovis NM – which has the greatest warbler diversity in the US – should be managed and marketed specifically for their recreation and wildlife values.

The State Land Office should begin an aggressive program to restore these properties for their outdoor recreation, wildlife, and cultural values. The first thing I will do is give the New Mexico Department of Game & Fish back the \$800k annual increase that the current Commissioner imposed on New Mexico Department of Game & Fish for their sportsmen's lease. In return, I will require New Mexico Department of Game & Fish to sign an MOU with the State Land Office guaranteeing they would commit at least \$4 million annually to wildlife, watershed, and recreation related restoration and improvements.

As restoration and infrastructure improvements happen, the next step is to map out a targeted international marketing campaign for specific ecotourism and outdoor recreation audiences. These specific audiences include the international birding, mountain bike, wildlife viewing, horseback and trekking/hiking, geocaching, and rock climbing communities.

For example, the State Land Office with New Mexico Department of Game & Fish funding, could build out mountain bike/hiking/horseback trails on White Peak with designated campsites, parking, and road improvements and then market these to specific national/international recreation audiences.

The Continental Divide Trail across NM is another outstanding project. The Continental Divide Trail runs through or near both the above-mentioned "heirloom" locations creating a tourism thread that can and should be part of a greater offering co-marketed by the State Land Office, NM Department of Tourism, local guides and outfitters, New Mexico Department of Game & Fish, US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), Bureau of Land Management (BLM), US Forest Service (USFS), county commissions, and chambers of commerce.

The Luera Mountains, on the northern edge of Mexican grey wolf habitat, should be managed and marketed exclusively for its wildlife values and could be a western state model of successful revenue generation.

And of course the bootheel, with its ecological diversity like no other in the nation, should also have large tracts managed for its wildlife values.

**QUESTION 4:**

There is a public sentiment that oil, gas and mining companies are not paying enough for their leases. They are also perceived to place profit over the health of the environment. As Commissioner how would you ensure that the state is getting good value for its leases and the lessees are held to environmentally sound practices?

**INH RATING of this Response**

0-1= Poor, 1-2=Good, 2-3=Excellent

Ideology	Knowledge of topic	Quality of Solutions offered
2.83	2.88	2.71

**ANSWER: GARRETT VENEKLASEN**

Royalty rates in NM are some of the lowest in the west, hovering around 17%. Texas charges an average of 24%. I will aggressively push to raise royalty rates to a fluctuating (not set like they are now) “fair market” rate.

Rental rates (industry pays the SLO a ‘rental fee’ when they purchase a development lease and ‘rent’ the site until actual development occurs) were set in 1931. Industry is paying pennies on the dollar. These rates must also be immediately raised to fluctuating fair market rates.

Methane capture must mandated statewide. New Mexico producers are emitting an estimated 570,000 tons of methane annually, amounting to more than \$27 million in lost tax revenues and royalties that could be used to fund our public schools and other public institutions.

We need to sharply raise bonding rates for all development, so industry is held accountable for their practices. Bonding rates are so low, developers can simply declare bankruptcy and walk away if they cause environmental damage. This must stop immediately. There are approximately 2,000 abandoned wells in NM and mitigating these wells will cost NM taxpayers millions of dollars. We need a statewide watershed, aquifer, culture and urban protection act and a separate state environmental protection act to keep the “frack” far away from our rivers, aquifers, urban areas and cultural sites - with a sunset clause to eventually eliminate fracking completely in NM.

Again, my extensive background in natural resource planning and policy will play a critical role in enacting progressive legislation in this arena.

**QUESTION 5:**

New Mexico is one of poorest states and yet has one of the largest Permanent Funds. There is interest in changing the state constitution to increase annual distributions from the Fund to

provide for Early Childhood Education. There has also been discussion for using this fund for other enterprises besides education. What uses would you champion and why?

### INH RATING of this Response

0-1= Poor, 1-2=Good, 2-3=Excellent

Ideology	Knowledge of topic	Quality of Solutions offered
2.71	2.79	2.63

#### ANSWER: GARRETT VENEKLASSEN

If we are going to try for a constitutional amendment increasing the annual distribution of the LPF, we should be ambitious and go for 2-3% (with sunset clauses and market trend sideboards). By state statute we can use up to 9% of the fund and we only distribute 5%. This distribution should not only specifically fund early childhood education but also K-12 and our state universities. We need to have the courage to invest in our children. Other states who have invested their permanent funds into education have thrived (the "Minnesota Miracle" is the best example). Although there has been talk about using some of this money to invest in small business opportunity, I don't think we can or should get distracted by these ideas until we create a robust and well funded public education system that matches the highest standards of other states.

#### QUESTION 6:

As State Commissioner of Public Lands, what steps would you take to address prevention of and consequences for sexual misconduct in the workplace? Why do you think these specific efforts will be more successful than previous efforts at curbing rampant sexual misconduct?

### INH RATING of this Response

0-1= Poor, 1-2=Good, 2-3=Excellent

Ideology	Knowledge of topic	Quality of Solutions offered
2.52	2.0	1.91

#### ANSWER: GARRETT VENEKLASSEN

I will immediately revise the SLO sexual harassment policy and create a zero tolerance policy in the agency. The SLO will have the highest standards of any state agency when it comes to dealing with sexual harassment in the agency's work place?

#### QUESTION 7:

Have you accepted campaign contributions from the following industries? If so why and are you willing to give them back and pledge not to accept additional contributions?

**INH RATING of this Response**

0-1= Poor, 1-2=Good, 2-3=Excellent

Ideology	Knowledge of topic	Quality of Solutions offered
2.67	2.70	2.65

**ANSWER: GARRETT VENEKLASEN**

a. Fossil fuel and mining industry? Steve Elliot (Elliot Oil) contributed \$1,000 to my campaign. He is one of the primary funders of the Cleanline renewable energy initiative and a western model for an oil company rapidly transitioning from fossil fuels to renewables. He will be a powerful voice to encourage others to follow in his footsteps. Sadly an opponent is already attacking me on this front showing that scoring political points matters more than driving political change.

b. The NRA or gun lobby?

**ANSWER:**

I am a gun owner, but absolutely HATE the NRA. I am passionate about gun reform. I have not and will not take a dime from the NRA.

c. Ranching Industry?

**ANSWER:**

No

d. Environmental Groups?

**ANSWER:**

Yes. CVNM Action fund. National Wildlife Action Fund

**Commissioner of Public Lands - Respondent - Stephanie Garcia Richards**

**QUESTION 1:**

As State Commissioner of Public Lands, what is ONE critical issue for New Mexicans that you will champion in your first year in office? Why have you selected this issue and what specific steps would you take to address it? Why do you think these initiatives/policies will be successful and how will you evaluate their success?

**INH RATING of this Response**

0-1= Poor, 1-2=Good, 2-3=Excellent

Ideology	Knowledge of topic	Quality of Solutions offered
2.79	2.75	2.54

**ANSWER: STEPHANIE GARCIA Richards**

My number one priority as land commissioner will be holding the oil & gas industry accountable to pay their fair share for OUR resources by:

- No new fracking leases..
- Ensuring that the "self reported" amounts from the industry are accurate
- Working with the legislature to raise the royalty rates that were set in statute 40 years ago.
- Working with industry and the new governor to ensure we are capturing the revenue lost from methane vented, flared and burned by implementation of a new methane rule.

In New Mexico, the royalty is 18.75% for Oil & Gas Generation. It is 25% in Texas.

For far too long the resources from state trust lands that belong to all New Mexicans have been controlled by a small but powerful industry that has hamstrung our efforts to control our lands. New Mexico's statutorily set lease rates were set over four decades ago, at levels lower than all our neighboring states.

Exacerbating this issue, industry friendly land commissioners have helped to keep control away from state regulators, or the impacted communities.

This changes on the day I take office. As a legislator who has served on the finance committees, risen to chair my own committee, and develop strong relationships with legislators in both chambers I am well positioned as Land Commissioner to pursue legislative changes to the statutes that cap our lease rates at levels far below our neighboring states.

As Land Commissioner I look forward to working with the next Governor, the Energy Minerals & Natural Resources Department and the Environment Department to coordinate reporting enforcement, and to enforce the new methane rule.

If we, the people of New Mexico are able to get control over this industry again,

rather than it controlling us, we will be well positioned to increase revenues to the state while also protecting our environment.

## QUESTION 2:

Will you support coyote killing contests and rattlesnake roundups on State Trust Lands?

### INH RATING of this Response

0-1= Poor, 1-2=Good, 2-3=Excellent

Ideology	Knowledge of topic	Quality of Solutions offered
2.87	2.78	2.48

## ANSWER: STEPHANIE GARCIA Richards

I strongly oppose wildlife (and coyote) killing contests. I strongly oppose trapping, and I strongly oppose the cruel use of cyanide poisoning devices (M44s), on any and all public lands, including on State Trust Lands. These methods (traps and poisons) have many unintended victims, including pets and endangered species - they are cruel and random. And I will ban those practice on all state trust land.

In my 6 years as Representative, I have repeatedly voted to stop the killing contests and protect wildlife, including bears, coyotes, and prairie dogs.

And I very much agree with Albuquerque Mayor Tim Keller who less than 2 weeks ago signed a resolution opposing coyote killing contests into law and stated "We are taking a stand in Albuquerque to oppose gratuitous coyote killing contests... Cherishing the outdoors and treating animals humanely are core values of our city...Coyote killing contest defied the principles of conservation and wildlife management that will allow us to continue enjoying our mountains, rivers and wildlife for generations to come."

Now that I have stated my position clearly, and that my position aligns 100% with that of the Sierra Club, I would like to respectfully remind the Sierra Club of the following.

In the long 2017 legislative session, three major and extremely important pro- wildlife bills were introduced: SB 267 wanted to protect Fur-Bearing Animals and Coyotes, SB 268 wanted to prohibit coyote killing contests, and SB 286 wanted to ban the use of lethal body-gripping traps and poisons on public lands. None of these made it into law.

Regarding SB 267:

"NMWF respectfully opposes SB 267." NMWF = New Mexico Wildlife Federation See <http://nmwildlife.org/news/legislative-update-week-february-19th/>

And the bill was tabled in first committee.

Regarding SB 268:

The NMWF took no official position on the bill, because some of its members were in favor of it and others opposed it.

I voted for that bill, but it died in the House.

At the time, in February 2017, Garrett VeneKlasen, Executive Director of the New Mexico Wildlife Federation stated:

- “I don’t have a problem with hunting coyotes and calling, but I have a problem with the way the public perceives what we do,” (Calling is a nice word meant to replace the word sport-killing, so that the practice sounds better.)
- “We have to be respectful and discrete.”

• “The hype around the contests is a great way for the people who sponsor these to get attention. They don’t realize the damage it is doing to the greater sportsmen community with the public.”

See: <http://nmpoliticalreport.com/159628/panel-oks-bill-to-end-coyote-killing-contests/> So my opponent’s issue with such bill is not the fact that some carry out coyote killing contests, but rather that, as a result the public ends up disliking the hunting community.

Regarding SB 286:

Sierra Club was strongly in favor of SB 286.

The bill was well written. The bill wanted to prevent the indiscriminate random and commercial killing of wildlife. The bill allowed for trapping for wildlife research and wildlife management.

And yet:

"NMWF therefore respectfully opposes SB 286 at its most basic level."

See <http://nmwildlife.org/news/legislative-update-week-february-19th/>

And the bill died in its 1st committee.

The reason I take the liberty to mention these 3 three bills with such a level of detail is that Wildlife Protection is a pillar of the Sierra Club. John Muir saw the man as disrupting the environment.

And as much as the executive director wants to separate himself from the stances that the NMWF took under his leadership, the NMWF’s positions were opposite positions to mine and to the Sierra Club’s. And the NMWF’s website states “Garrett VeneKlasen is on leave starting January 1, 2018 through June 2018.” June 2018 happens to coincide with the Primary.

Unfortunately just like with Oil & Gas, these issues are not limited to the SLO. As Land Commissioner, I will fight to protect the state’s wildlife from cruelty and abuse. But these issues need to be solved through the legislature, so that all public lands can be free of killing contests,



traps and cyanide explosives, be it areas where members of the public might go for a hike, state trust lands or land purchased by the game commission.

### QUESTION 3:

The effects of climate change and the gradual decrease in demand for fossil fuels is affecting the future revenue that State Trust Lands provide for schools and public hospitals in NM. What is your plan, as the Commissioner of NM State Trust Lands, to find new ways to raise revenue while protecting the resources for future generations?

### INH RATING of this Response

0-1= Poor, 1-2=Good, 2-3=Excellent

Ideology	Knowledge of topic	Quality of Solutions offered
2.58	2.42	2.29

### ANSWER: STEPHANIE GARCIA Richards

State Trust Lands are specifically designated to support the education of New Mexico children, and other beneficiaries, in perpetuity. The mandate is to act in the best interests of these beneficiaries, looking to the long-term.

New Mexico's current multitude of challenges include: drought, critical water shortage, diminishing habitat quality, risk of catastrophic wildfires, rising temperatures, invasive species, and destructive land use legacies.

Our climate reality has changes, and the land office needs to make decisions with the recognition that the health of the environment, the economy, the public and the animals are inextricably intertwined; ensuring optimal revenue generation while preserving the land for future generations.

New Mexico's Enabling Act identified a series of detailed restrictions on trust land dispositions. Most significantly, one major requirement is that trust lands and the natural products of trust lands may only be sold or leased "to the highest and best bidder at a public auction," providing for only a few exceptions to this strict public auction requirement (New Mexico-Arizona Enabling Act, 36 Stat. 557 § 10).

This shows that over a hundred years ago, there was a deep respect and reverence for the land, and the goal of the State Trust Lands was not to make money at any and all cost. And that education and health care were valued as much as the natural resources residing in our state, something that indicates an understanding and a forward thinking ability that many leaders lack today. Managing these State Trust Lands requires a balancing act, and a thoughtful decision making process when it comes to the land's exploitation to generate income.

This ties in perfectly to Aldo Leopold's 1949 essay "The Land Ethic", which is not about wildlife management or science (of the North American Wildlife Conservation Model), or hunting ethics. The author was already saddened by the fact that the then modern man had "outgrown" the land. He was concerned by "the fact that our educational and economic system [was] headed away from, rather than toward, an intense consciousness of land." And the last 70 years have not helped. Human beings have caused so much damage to the planet - climate change and its impact being the number one issue. When the Enabling Act was put forth, climate change was not an issue, and neither were the pipelines full of oil spilling into our rivers, or the various modern/recent contaminations of our environment.

During the 2017 Legislative Session, the legislature passed HB 24 to create the State Trust Lands Restoration and Remediation Fund in an effort to finance projects that reclaim damaged surface lands and watersheds. I was proud to support and vote for this endeavor, but I am disappointed in the manner in which it is being utilized by the current office holder.

The legislation, which went into effect in July 2017, allows for one percent of the State Land Maintenance Fund (LMF) to be diverted to the State Trust Lands Restoration and Remediation Fund specifically for the purpose of restoring and remediating rangeland, forest, and watersheds, improving wildlife habitat, cleaning up illegal dump sites, and stabilizing cultural resources.

The LMF is capitalized through lease payments and earnings from renewable resources. This means that for 2018 there is \$1.2 million in the State Trust Lands Restoration and Remediation Fund available for restoration services, but this is just a fraction of the funding needed to keep our land healthy.

Unfortunately the incumbent's policies resulted in a reduction in the growth of renewable resource projects, thereby reducing the growth of the LMF and available funds for restoration projects. At the time former Land Commissioner Ray Powell left office he had over \$700 million in renewable energy projects lined up for state trust lands that were abandoned when Commissioner Dunn took office.

The most direct way to grow the LMF is by growing the volume of renewable resource projects on state lands. HB 24 as passed allows up to \$5 million to be placed in the State Trust Lands Restoration and Remediation Fund. I propose we grow this fund up to that point, and then I will return to the legislature and ask the body to eliminate the cap so as to further incentivize the growth of renewable projects to fund restoration.

The State Trust Lands Restoration and Remediation Fund, as created by HB 24 gives us an opportunity to grow a permanent source of funding for habitat restoration projects. Prior to this, funds were appropriated on an as needed basis by the legislature and funding was never guaranteed.

#### **QUESTION 4:**

There is a public sentiment that oil, gas and mining companies are not paying enough for their leases. They are also perceived to place profit over the health of the environment. As Commissioner how would you ensure that the state is getting good value for its leases and the lessees are held to environmentally sound practices?

**INH RATING of this Response**

0-1= Poor, 1-2=Good, 2-3=Excellent

Ideology	Knowledge of topic	Quality of Solutions offered
2.79	2.50	2.29

**ANSWER: STEPHANIE GARCIA Richards**

One of the short-sided aspects of the current Land Commissioner is their unyielding commitment to making more money at the cost of our land and water. As Land Commissioner, I want to lead and run the office with the values that I, along with environmentalists and conservationists, hold dear, and that is that land is precious, that land is complex. "It is inconceivable to me that an ethical relation to land can exist without love, respect, and admiration for land, and a high regard for its value. By value,

of course, I mean something far broader than mere economic value; I mean value in the philosophical sense." Leopold, 1949.

We have to "Quit thinking about decent land-use as solely an economic problem. Examine each question in terms of what is ethically and esthetically right, as well as what is economically expedient. A thing is right when it tends to preserve the integrity, stability, and beauty of the biotic community. It is wrong when it tends otherwise." This is how I see my role as Land Commissioner.

When leased, State Trust Lands need to benefit the State as much as possible. In New Mexico, the royalty is 18.75% for Oil & Gas Generation. It is 25% in Texas. As I stated in my response to question 1, there is no reason that the rates couldn't be upped in New Mexico.

The practice of fracking needs to be banned, and I want to champion that issue as Land Commissioner. Access to clean safe drinking water should trump revenue.

**QUESTION 5:**

New Mexico is one of poorest states and yet has one of the largest Permanent Funds. There is interest in changing the state constitution to increase annual distributions from the Fund to provide for Early Childhood Education. There has also been discussion for using this fund for other enterprises besides education. What uses would you champion and why?

**INH RATING of this Response**

0-1= Poor, 1-2=Good, 2-3=Excellent

Ideology	Knowledge of topic	Quality of Solutions offered
2.67	2.58	2.21

**ANSWER: STEPHANIE GARCIA Richards**

Quality early childhood education is the most important education investment we can make as a state. As an educator, I have personally witnessed the impact a high- quality early childhood education program can make on the life of a child. This is one of the reasons I first ran for the legislature, and one of the reasons I am running to be Land Commissioner. I am the only candidate in the race that has consistently supported early childhood education and now serve as a primary sponsor of HJR1 in the 2018 session.

As Land Commissioner, I will continue to advocate for the increased investment in our children, an investment that is shown to have the highest rates of return over time. We need to grow these programs, making them available to all New Mexico families, and increase funding in order to do so.

As a former member of the House Appropriations and Finance Committee I am well aware of the fiscal limitations we face, but I also know there is room to maneuver in the budget.

As the Chair of the House Education Committee I have already been in the trenches on this issue, and have developed a deep understanding of the process and understand where pressure needs to be applied to move this initiative forward so as to invest more in our kids and schools.

As Land Commissioner I will focus the energies of the office on expanding the availability of the financial resources we need for these programs, and be a loud and prominent advocate for making them happen.

**QUESTION 6:**

As State Commissioner of Public Lands, what steps would you take to address prevention of and consequences for sexual misconduct in the workplace? Why do you think these specific efforts will be more successful than previous efforts at curbing rampant sexual misconduct?

**INH RATING of this Response**

0-1= Poor, 1-2=Good, 2-3=Excellent

Ideology	Knowledge of topic	Quality of Solutions offered
2.65	2.52	2.57

**ANSWER: STEPHANIE GARCIA Richards**

In all ways, I will continue to advocate that we as a state are clear and loud about our acceptance and inclusion of ALL New Mexicans in our public statements, statutes, policies, procedures, debate and political appointments in both in my public office and in my private life. I will continue to ensure that our decisions and actions as policy makers and elected people reinforce the worth of all New Mexicans and will continue to call out and fight back against discrimination, hate, bigotry, and violence against our most vulnerable populations in public statements, statutes, policies, procedures, debate and political appointments.

My office will also set up an independent system for victims to report without fear of retaliation. Sexual harassment has never been tolerated in my office and it won't be in the State Land Office.

**QUESTION 7:**

Have you accepted campaign contributions from the following industries? If so why and are you willing to give them back and pledge not to accept additional contributions?

**INH RATING of this Response**

0-1= Poor, 1-2=Good, 2-3=Excellent

Ideology	Knowledge of topic	Quality of Solutions offered
2.79	2.74	2.78

**ANSWER: STEPHANIE GARCIA Richards**

- Fossil fuel and mining industry?

No, when I was first elected I made a pledge to myself to never take oil & gas money.

- The NRA or gun lobby?

No. I have been supported by Everytown and Mom's Demand Action for my work to close the background check loophole and protect victims of domestic violence.

- Ranching Industry?

No.

- Environmental Groups?

Yes. Over my legislative career I have received several contributions from the political wings of Conservation Voters and the Sierra Club.

## US House of Representatives, CD - 1 - Respondent - Jessie Heitner

### QUESTION: 1

The attack on the ACA fundamentally is an attack on the concept that adequate health care is a right and not a privilege and that the government has a significant role in ensuring that access. What have you done and what will you do to ensure all New Mexicans have access to adequate health care?

### INH RATING of this Response

0-1= Poor, 1-2=Good, 2-3=Excellent

Ideology	Knowledge of topic	Quality of Solutions offered
2.81	2.81	2.76

### ANSWER: JESSE HEITNER

I've dedicated my life to getting effective healthcare to people who otherwise couldn't afford it. I've done that through Partners In Health in Rwanda, through the Gates Foundation in Nigeria, through the World Bank in Ghana, and through Xi'an JiaoTong University in China. I'm the only candidate running with any, much less extensive, experience in health economics and health systems design. I have multiple workable ideas for improving healthcare for all New Mexicans while we craft a Medicare For All plan.

I'm very much in favor of Medicare for All. But I'm trying desperately to warn my fellow candidates and the party as a whole about 2 fatal flaws in our current strategy. First: we could take every single senate race this year and not have a filibuster or veto proof majority, so we will not pass it this cycle. We should stop fooling ourselves and our constituents about that. I don't think our voting base will take it well when we over-promise and utterly fail to deliver. Second, the plan in the house with 120 signatories has no financing plan. And I don't know of a candidate (or incumbent) with an obvious plan to make a plan. We are as ready to do "Medicare for All" as Republicans were "Repeal and Replace," and the results are going to be just as embarrassing and bad for public health. As a health economist, I'd like to be part of making a workable Medicare for All plan. E-gads somebody has to.

That said, there are several important things congress can do now, even from a minority, to improve healthcare for New Mexico:

- 1) Create a compatibility standard for electronic medical records so that providers can transmit them to each other electronically. This will save a lot of time, money, and lives as patients visit different specialists. The VA already does this internally and is an important reason our Veterans choose VA care voluntarily.

- 2) On a related note, stand against all efforts to privatize the VA hospital system.
- 3) Provide funding for, and encourage states to provide, required continuing medical education in pain management and opioid prescriptions. New Mexico is actually already a leader in doing this and the results seem positive. Many opioid addictions stem from valid prescriptions that went mis-managed or got out of hand. We can address this.
- 4) Provide more low-interest loans to medical school students, as well as PA and nursing positions, to combat shortages in all these areas, and in particular to get graduating med students out of the frightening debt load that inspires them to take on expensive specialties rather than go into general practice where they are more needed. And as loans, the government (and taxpayer) actually eventually makes money on such initiatives.
- 5) Have more funds available for student loan forgiveness for doctors that practice in rural and underserved communities to get more practitioners to those areas.

### QUESTION 2:

What specific steps did you take in your previous positions to ensure proportional representation of traditionally underrepresented groups (women, People of Color (POC), LGBT+ individuals, individuals with disabilities) in your businesses/firms/administrations? What lessons would you bring with you to the House of Representatives to improve representation in your administration and the country more widely?

### INH RATING of this Response

0-1= Poor, 1-2=Good, 2-3=Excellent

Ideology	Knowledge of topic	Quality of Solutions offered
2.10	1.67	1.52

### ANSWER: JESSE HEITNER

I've rarely been a hiring manager myself, but as a global public health researcher, the teams I've worked with have been as diverse as the globe has to offer. I've worked long-term in several settings where I was the only white male. I would have to bend over backwards to hire a team of mostly straight, white men from amongst my professional connections. My staff will be a tapestry of diversity because my life always has been.

### QUESTION 3:

What steps would you take to address prevention of and consequences for sexual misconduct in the workplace? Why do you think these specific efforts will be more successful than previous efforts at curbing rampant sexual misconduct?



**INH RATING of this Response**

0-1= Poor, 1-2=Good, 2-3=Excellent

Ideology	Knowledge of topic	Quality of Solutions offered
2,43	2.33	2.24

**ANSWER: JESSE HEITNER**

I've put forward repeatedly that at the extreme of sexual misconduct, a priority of my term would be to address New Mexico's and the nation's backlog of untested rape kits so that we can get abusers and predators off the streets. To me that is such an obvious, doable, and high-yield step in reducing sex crimes that I'm astounded the backlog has built up for so long.

Within the workplace specifically, there's no one obvious silver bullet policy. Beyond existing laws about sexual harassment and hostile work environments, the real answer lies addressing two underlying causes: One, the systemic toxic masculinity that inspires and allows pervasive sexual misconduct in workplaces. I strive to be an example of non-toxic masculinity and an active participant in the public dialog around toxic masculinity. Two: the underrepresentation of women in leadership positions in the workplace. An important aspect of addressing hiring and promoting disparities is requiring paid parental leave for *both* parents, so that women do not get treated as disposable or higher-cost / lower yield workers just for having children.

**QUESTION 4:**

The Department of Justice has undermined ADA protections for individuals with disabilities by scraping and rescinding key guidance documents on topics ranging from employment to service animals. What steps would you take as our House Representative to ensure that New Mexicans with disabilities continue to have equal access to employment as well as public services and spaces despite federal efforts to repeal, replace, and modify existing legal guidance on the ADA?

**INH RATING of this Response**

0-1= Poor, 1-2=Good, 2-3=Excellent

Ideology	Knowledge of topic	Quality of Solutions offered
1.86	1.38	1.38

**ANSWER: JESSE HEITNER**

I'm a firm believer in a strong ADA. If the Department of Justice undermined the opportunities for persons with disabilities to participate in the workforce and in society at large by rescinding guidance documents, I would propose the key provisions in the rescinded guidance documents as legislation to be incorporated into the ADA directly as amendments.

**QUESTION 5:**

Earlier this year President Trump tweeted "how can there be global warming when the northern states and the northeast has had a winter that is one of the coldest on record? All those countries that are spending billions to stop global warming are wasting money." What are your thoughts about this tweet? What policies would you propose to position NM as a leader in the fight to address the negative effects of climate change?

**INH RATING of this Response**

0-1= Poor, 1-2=Good, 2-3=Excellent

Ideology	Knowledge of topic	Quality of Solutions offered
2.48	2.38	2.19

**ANSWER: JESSE HEITNER**

Q1 – What I think of the tweet: It shows that President Trump and his twitter followers need lessons in understanding “object permanence”, the understanding that objects continue to exist even when not currently being seen or perceived. It a key stage of mental development for infants aged 1-24 months old. Just because they aren't feeling the heat right now, doesn't mean “It's all gone bye-bye forever.” Seasons and weather patterns have just moved it elsewhere for a while. But the average global temperature is getting consistently higher all the time, faster than in any stretch of natural history, which means global warming is real phenomenon, just like 97% of climate scientists say.

Q2 – Addressing the negative effects: This is actually a rare question; most questions focusing on preventing more, not addressing the damage already done and still happening. As a federal congressperson, I think the most important thing I can do to address the damage of global warming is to make sure that infrastructure spending bills include money for water conservation and irrigation infrastructure. Perhaps the only thing both parties want to accomplish soon is an increase in infrastructure spending, so I believe there is hope. As a desert state, with not infrequent droughts and plenty of dry heat, water for agriculture and household use is endangered by climate change that give us winters without snow and dry hot summers.

Looking at prevention, infrastructure bills should also include provisions for the generation of (and the transmission and storage of) clean energy from solar and wind. NM is blessed to have a lot of sun and wind with which to power ourselves.

**QUESTION 6:**

How will you protect public lands and national monuments for current and future generations of New Mexicans?

**INH RATING of this Response**

0-1= Poor, 1-2=Good, 2-3=Excellent

Ideology	Knowledge of topic	Quality of Solutions offered
2.10	1.80	1.70

**ANSWER: JESSE HEITNER**

The Congressional Review Act (CRA) gives Congress a 60 day window to block any regulatory rule proposed by federal agencies, and I would lobby for my fellow Representatives to join me in using CRA authority to block any rule which shrinks national monuments such as Bears Ears or endangers public health or cultural heritage, such as permitting fracking in the Albuquerque Basin or Chaco Cañon.

**QUESTION 7:**

Have you accepted campaign contributions from the following industries? If so why and are you willing to give them back and pledge not to accept additional contributions?

- Fossil fuel industry?
- The pharmaceutical industry?
- The NRA or gun lobby?
- The tobacco industry?

**INH RATING of this Response**

0-1= Poor, 1-2=Good, 2-3=Excellent

Ideology	Knowledge of topic	Quality of Solutions offered
2.60	2.61	2.56

**ANSWER:**

None of the above.

**QUESTION 8:**

What does “common sense gun control” mean to you? What measures would you take to improve gun safety?

**INH RATING of this Response**

**0-1= Poor, 1-2=Good, 2-3=Excellent**

Ideology	Knowledge of topic	Quality of Solutions offered
2.75	2.80	2.60

**ANSWER: JESSE HEITNER**

As a public health researcher, I can tell you that there is good evidence for what works and what should be prioritized. I’m for re-instituting an assault weapons ban on guns like the AR-15 and AK-47. There is no hunting or self-defense need for these types of weapons, and the best estimate from a public health research I’ve seen indicates this would reduce deaths from mass shootings by 54%.

However, mass shootings are a small minority of gun deaths, which claim about 99 lives per day in the U.S., about 60% of which are suicides. Of those that are homicides, the most common perpetrator is a former or current intimate partner. For me, common sense gun control means that those persons with a history of violent crimes, especially domestic violence (even misdemeanor domestic violence) should lose their rights to possess firearms within the jurisdiction that their victim resides. This should be enforced by a requirement for universal background checks for all transfers of firearms, by dealer or individual, by sale or by gift, to a stranger or family member, under all circumstances. Failure to obtain such a background check should be punishable as a criminal offense, with at minimum a fine, but potentially with jail time and/or loss of gun possession rights depending on the severity of the offense.

**QUESTION 9:**

After the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) scrapped net neutrality rules last year, states and cities across the U.S. have led efforts to restore net neutrality and sought to insulate their communities from the effects of the FCC’s repeal. How would you fight to ensure equal access to content for New Mexicans? Are there lessons to be learned from previous efforts in New Mexico and in other U.S. states?

**INH RATING of this Response**

**0-1= Poor, 1-2=Good, 2-3=Excellent**

Ideology	Knowledge of topic	Quality of Solutions offered
2.10	1.95	1.75

**ANSWER: JESSE HEITNER**

My view of the Commerce Clause of the Constitution is that the internet, as clearly a component of interstate trade, is subject to regulation of Congress, which can legislate that all data be treated the same by internet service providers. I would introduce such legislation if necessary when I took office.

**QUESTION 10:**

Trump's "\$1.5 trillion infrastructure plan" is really \$200 billion in federal funding that leaves state and local governments to cover 80% of project costs? How do you envision paying for infrastructure projects in New Mexico?

**INH RATING of this Response**

0-1= Poor, 1-2=Good, 2-3=Excellent

Ideology	Knowledge of topic	Quality of Solutions offered
2.60	2.30	1.80

**ANSWER: JESSE HEITNER**

The Federal government can and should pay a much higher share. But to do so, we very clearly need to repeal Trump's \$1.5 trillion tax giveaway to corporations and America's wealthiest individuals. That legislation is outright atrocious, and has helped increase the nation's deficit by over one trillion dollars since Trump took office. Further, we need to be raising the tax rates on America's wealthiest individuals. Empirically, the government could tax the wealthy and corporations at much higher rates and bring in much more revenue without harming business. I'm even going to add a citation on this, see below. I'm not going to delve into the economics here, but I can go toe to toe with any pundit or expert arguing for lowered taxes and smack down their arguments with researched empirical facts about the economy.

Trabandt, Mathias; Uhlig, Harald (2011). "The Laffer Curve Revisited". *Journal of Monetary Economics*. 58 (4): 305–27. doi:10.1016/j.jmoneco.2011.07.003.

## US House of Representatives, CD - 1 - Respondent - Damian Lara

### QUESTION 1:

The attack on the ACA fundamentally is an attack on the concept that adequate health care is a right and not a privilege and that the government has a significant role in ensuring that access. What have you done and what will you do to ensure all New Mexicans have access to adequate health care?

### INH RATING of this Response

0-1= Poor, 1-2=Good, 2-3=Excellent

Ideology	Knowledge of topic	Quality of Solutions offered
2.76	2.48	2.10

### ANSWER: DAMIAN LARA

I have worked to ensure a just health care system since 2001. I've worked to ensure funding for unserved and underserved communities. I've organized conferences to address health disparities. I've worked on advancing universal health care and a single-payer system. I've been recognized for my work to protect and strengthen the federal government's role in ensuring access to health care services for all underserved Americans by the National Association of Community Health Centers.

I will continue to work toward adequate health care for all, that is, Medicare For All. I will provide innovative solutions for the transition, as well as appropriate funding, and to ensure that Veterans and Native Americans have access adequate health care in addition to the existing VA and IHS systems. I'll ensure health care is affordable for all by providing for global budgeting, long-term care, and 100% free negotiated prescription drug prices. And I'll pay for it with a minimal payroll tax and amending the Internal Revenue Code to ensure corporations and the 1% pay their fair share.

### QUESTION 2;

What specific steps did you take in your previous positions to ensure proportional representation of traditionally underrepresented groups (women, People of Color (POC), LGBT+ individuals, individuals with disabilities) in your businesses/firms/administrations? What lessons would you bring with you to the House of Representatives to improve representation in your administration and the country more widely?

**INH RATING of this Response**

0-1= Poor, 1-2=Good, 2-3=Excellent

Ideology	Knowledge of topic	Quality of Solutions offered
2.48	2.33	2.19

**ANSWER: DAMIAN LARA**

I've started with recruitment of traditionally underrepresented groups. I've ensured outreach from working with affinity groups to recruit law clerks to the Legislative Council Service, to internships with YDI at the County Assessor's Office, as well as with my Congressional Campaign. I've been in the community, working on programs like the Arturo Jaramillo Summer Law Clerkship and the NMHBA Summer Law Program. I've also gone through capacity building and training. I've hired local staff and film crews, and the national firm that I hired is the most diverse firm in the nation. My lead staff with the firm is a DACA recipient who was invited by Bernie Sanders to the State of the Union.

As your next member of Congress, I'll continue recruitment efforts within communities that represent traditionally underrepresented groups. I'll focus on recruitment of local staff for both my district and DC office. I've learned that we must create pipeline programs, invest in recruitment efforts, and build capacity for traditionally underrepresented groups. Affirmative action is still necessary to ensure proportional representation.

**QUESTION 3:**

What steps would you take to address prevention of and consequences for sexual misconduct in the workplace? Why do you think these specific efforts will be more successful than previous efforts at curbing rampant sexual misconduct?

**INH RATING of this Response**

0-1= Poor, 1-2=Good, 2-3=Excellent

Ideology	Knowledge of topic	Quality of Solutions offered
2.48	2.38	2.05

**ANSWER: DAMIAN LARA**

The prevention of sexual misconduct in the workplace, and in society in general, requires a change in culture. It requires leading by example. It requires education and awareness of written policies and legislation. I will require mandated reporting and tracking of sexual misconduct,

including in the airline industry and other similar industries. Stricter penalties and less obstacles to redress grievances are also necessary. For example, I'd eliminate the Congressional Office of Compliance secret hush fund that settles sexual harassment claims, and create an independent ethics committee to investigate sexual misconduct.

A shift in culture, beginning with the Me Too movement in stark contrast with 45's "locker room talk," has brought awareness of sexual misconduct to the forefront of public discourse. Members of Congress will have to be on record for these legislative changes. And as my political science professor would say, laws create habits. Change people's laws, change people's habits.

#### QUESTION 4:

The Department of Justice has undermined ADA protections for individuals with disabilities by scraping and rescinding key guidance documents on topics ranging from employment to service animals. What steps would you take as our House Representative to ensure that New Mexicans with disabilities continue to have equal access to employment as well as public services and spaces despite federal efforts to repeal, replace, and modify existing legal guidance on the ADA?

#### INH RATING of this Response

0-1= Poor, 1-2=Good, 2-3=Excellent

Ideology	Knowledge of topic	Quality of Solutions offered
2.48	2.33	2.00

#### ANSWER: DAMIAN LARA

Having worked in the legislative branch at all three levels of government, I know the difference between what should be legislated and what should be regulated. I've been on record as opposing legislation that weakens the ADA protections. I also understand how the DOL and EEOC work, and how a well-placed phone call from a Congressional Office to a local or district office of a federal department or agency can have an impact on the implementation and administration of the law by career bureaucrats, regardless of the guidance set by a new administration.

I will ensure my district staff and DC legislative staff are well versed in constituent services and the law. I will continue to be a fierce advocate for Americans with disabilities, just as I have been as a board member of Alta Mira.

#### QUESTION 5:

Earlier this year President Trump tweeted "how can there be global warming when the northern states and the northeast has had a winter that is one of the coldest on record? All those



countries that are spending billions to stop global warming are wasting money." What are your thoughts about this tweet? What policies would you propose to position NM as a leader in the fight to address the negative effects of climate change?

### INH RATING of this Response

0-1= Poor, 1-2=Good, 2-3=Excellent

Ideology	Knowledge of topic	Quality of Solutions offered
2.76	2.62	2.57

### ANSWER: DAMIAN LARA

One of two things, either he is incredibly ignorant of scientific facts and theories, or he thinks his Twitter followers are incredibly ignorant and that he can lie to them about the reality of the climate crisis we are facing as a planet.

I would shift tax breaks away from fossil fuel extraction to renewal energy production, infrastructure, and employee training programs. I would shift our national labs' mission away from nuclear weapons production to research and development of renewable energy technologies, including battery storage, smart electrical grids, and load capacity. Additionally, I support affordable housing credits for developers and builders that would require buildings to be carbon neutral, similar credits for federal buildings, and block grants for states, counties, and municipalities to do the same. I'd also support state financing options for homeowners to retrofit their homes to become carbon neutral as well.

### QUESTION 6:

How will you protect public lands and national monuments for current and future generations of New Mexicans?

### INH RATING of this Response

0-1= Poor, 1-2=Good, 2-3=Excellent

Ideology	Knowledge of topic	Quality of Solutions offered
2.70	2.30	2.30

### ANSWER: DAMIAN LARA

I would reauthorize and ensure long-term, sustainable funding for the Land and Water Conservation Fund. I'd prohibit any further exploration or extraction of fossil fuels, thereby preventing the fossil fuel industry from seeking to sell off, reduce, or lease public lands, or from

turning over federal lands to states. I'd also oppose all legislative and executive efforts to undermine the Antiquities Act, and work to protect existing designated national monuments and parks from executive repeals.

#### QUESTION 7:

Have you accepted campaign contributions from the following industries? If so why and are you willing to give them back and pledge not to accept additional contributions?

- Fossil fuel industry?
- The pharmaceutical industry?
- The NRA or gun lobby?
- The tobacco industry?
- 

#### INH RATING of this Response

0-1= Poor, 1-2=Good, 2-3=Excellent

Ideology	Knowledge of topic	Quality of Solutions offered
2.80	2.74	2.63

#### ANSWER: DAMIAN LARA

I haven't accepted any money from any of these industries, and I have pledged to not accept any money from them in the future.

#### QUESTION 8

What does "common sense gun control" mean to you? What measures would you take to improve gun safety?

#### INH RATING of this Response

0-1= Poor, 1-2=Good, 2-3=Excellent

Ideology	Knowledge of topic	Quality of Solutions offered
2.85	2.80	2.75

#### ANSWER: DAMIAN LARA

I would treat gun violence as a public health crisis. I'd have the CDC study how to improve gun safety, and ensure federal funds for these studies, which has been prevented for the past 20 years. I'd also ban military-style assault rifles, high-capacity magazines, bump stocks, and

silencers. I'd require universal mandatory waiting periods and background checks. No one with mental health or behavioral health issues, a history of domestic violence, or a criminal history should be able to buy a gun. I'd also remove the civil liability protections from manufacturers and dealers that prevents them from being sued.

#### QUESTION 9:

After the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) scrapped net neutrality rules last year, states and cities across the U.S. have led efforts to restore net neutrality and sought to insulate their communities from the effects of the FCC's repeal. How would you fight to ensure equal access to content for New Mexicans? Are there lessons to be learned from previous efforts in New Mexico and in other U.S. states?

#### INH RATING of this Response

0-1= Poor, 1-2=Good, 2-3=Excellent

Ideology	Knowledge of topic	Quality of Solutions offered
2.20	2.20	1.85

#### ANSWER: DAMIAN LARA

This is the problem with regulating an issue that should have been legislated at the federal level. The law practically writes itself. An internet service provider shall not limit content or applications, regardless of the source, or speed, favor, or block particular products or websites, that a consumer may access over the internet. These are powers of the federal government to legislate, as dictated by the commerce clause, and don't require complex guidance or regulations.

#### QUESTION 10:

Trump's "\$1.5 trillion infrastructure plan" is really \$200 billion in federal funding that leaves state and local governments to cover 80% of project costs? How do you envision paying for infrastructure projects in New Mexico?

#### INH RATING of this Response

0-1= Poor, 1-2=Good, 2-3=Excellent

Ideology	Knowledge of topic	Quality of Solutions offered
2.30	1.80	1.80

**ANSWER: DAMIAN LARA**

I support federal funding to make necessary investments in infrastructure. I support repealing the recent tax code reforms and using monies collected from the U.S. Customs and Border patrol to help pay for broadband, smart electrical grids, roads, and bridges, not a wall!

## US House of Representatives, CD - 1 - Respondent -Janice Arnold Jones

**QUESTION 1:**

The attack on the ACA fundamentally is an attack on the concept that adequate health care is a right and not a privilege and that the government has a significant role in ensuring that access. What have you done and what will you do to ensure all New Mexicans have access to adequate health care?

**INH RATING of this Response**

0-1= Poor, 1-2=Good, 2-3=Excellent

Ideology	Knowledge of topic	Quality of Solutions offered
1.55	1.20	1.19

**ANSWER: JANICE ARNOLD JONES**

1. *Continue to oppose and restructure the ACA to remove insurance companies from making medical decisions for consumers.*

**QUESTION 2:**

What specific steps did you take in your previous positions to ensure proportional representation of traditionally underrepresented groups (women, People of Color (POC), LGBT+ individuals, individuals with disabilities) in your businesses/firms/administrations?

**INH RATING of this Response**

0-1= Poor, 1-2=Good, 2-3=Excellent

Ideology	Knowledge of topic	Quality of Solutions offered
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1.95	1.76	1.43
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**ANSWER: JANICE ARNOLD JONES**

In my last private sector position, I was employed by a company started and owned by one of the first African American women, nuclear engineers. The employment standard was to seek individuals with the educational achievement and technical expertise required, who could ramp up and learn quickly while adding value and a diverse perspective to every project. Our outreach was broad, across schools, locations and by word of mouth. The pool of potential employees was small however the results were representative of our area.

What lessons would you bring with you to the House of Representatives to improve representation in your administration and the country more widely?

**ANSWER: JANICE ARNOLD JONES**

I will continue to set high standards knowing that excellent preparation and skill sets come from many sources.

**QUESTION 3:**

What steps would you take to address prevention of and consequences for sexual misconduct in the workplace?

**INH RATING of this Response**

0-1= Poor, 1-2=Good, 2-3=Excellent

Ideology	Knowledge of topic	Quality of Solutions offered
1.90	1.62	1.48

**ANSWER: JANICE ARNOLD JONES**

Clearly define acceptable behavior and consequences for unacceptable behavior. Document that workplace participants understand what is “acceptable and unacceptable” behavior. Consistently enforce the standards.

Why do you think these specific efforts will be more successful than previous efforts at curbing rampant sexual misconduct?

**ANSWER: JANICE ARNOLD JONES**

Experience! In my private sector experience, the standards were observed and enforced by all members of the workforce beginning with leadership.

In my service in the New Mexico legislature, there was no buy-in to “one standard for all” by the leadership or the most immediate intermediary, the Legislative Council Service.

#### QUESTION 4:

The Department of Justice has undermined ADA protections for individuals with disabilities by scraping and rescinding key guidance documents on topics ranging from employment to service animals. What steps would you take as our House Representative to ensure that New Mexicans with disabilities continue to have equal access to employment as well as public services and spaces despite federal efforts to repeal, replace, and modify existing legal guidance on the ADA?

#### INH RATING of this Response

0-1= Poor, 1-2=Good, 2-3=Excellent

Ideology	Knowledge of topic	Quality of Solutions offered
1.05	1.05	1.05

#### ANSWER: JANICE ARNOLD JONES

- I am not aware of a specific effort by the DOJ to undermine ADA protections, but would be interested in learning of specific concerns. The efforts of DOJ and ADA advocates to allow entities who are out of compliance, time (30 days, I believe) to make corrections to uphold the standard of “reasonable accommodations” is positive for all concerned.*

#### QUESTION 5:

Earlier this year President Trump tweeted "how can there be global warming when the northern states and the northeast has had a winter that is one of the coldest on record? All those countries that are spending billions to stop global warming are wasting money." What are your thoughts about this tweet?

#### INH RATING of this Response

0-1= Poor, 1-2=Good, 2-3=Excellent

Ideology	Knowledge of topic	Quality of Solutions offered
1.55	1.80	1.95

#### ANSWER: JANICE ARNOLD JONES

Asking anyone to comment on a tweet, which by definition is an abbreviated thought, is a waste of ink. The slant of this question makes clear that this survey is more interested in confirming an agenda than exploring the most effective solutions.

What policies would you propose to position NM as a leader in the fight to address the negative effects of climate change?

**ANSWER: JANICE ARNOLD JONES**

Incentivize dairies to developed closed loop, self-sustaining, energy production using manure.

Activate a fiber optic backbone for the State to reduce the need for travel and to improve communications.

Incentivize downsizing of solar array utilities to the smallest footprint possible.

Incentivize new roofing material, for non-northern exposure, with integrated solar power generation sufficient to sustain whatever the roof covers.

**QUESTION 6:**

How will you protect public lands and national monuments for current and future generations of New Mexicans?

**INH RATING of this Response**

0-1= Poor, 1-2=Good, 2-3=Excellent

Ideology	Knowledge of topic	Quality of Solutions offered
1.75	1.35	1.35

**ANSWER: JANICE ARNOLD JONES**

Ensure that the parks service is funded; it is one of the best uses of taxpayer dollars.

Impose fines on any user who damages public lands and monuments, including and especially anyone who fails to pack out what they bring in to our protect lands.

Littering fines should start at \$500.00 for the first incident and go up. Use satellite surveillance to identify. Make sure there are funds to prosecute.

We can staff our national treasures, but in the end, it is up to Americans to care for our public lands and monuments.

**QUESTION 7:**

Have you accepted campaign contributions from the following industries? If so why and are you willing to give them back and pledge not to accept additional contributions?

- Fossil fuel industry?
- The pharmaceutical industry?
- The NRA or gun lobby?
- The tobacco industry?

#### **INH RATING of this Response**

0-1= Poor, 1-2=Good, 2-3=Excellent

<b>Ideology</b>	<b>Knowledge of topic</b>	<b>Quality of Solutions offered</b>
<b>1.37</b>	<b>1.56</b>	<b>1.39</b>

#### **ANSWER: JANICE ARNOLD JONES**

Federal campaigns are prohibited from taking corporate contributions.

#### **QUESTION 8:**

What does “common sense gun control” mean to you? What measures would you take to improve gun safety?

#### **INH RATING of this Response**

0-1= Poor, 1-2=Good, 2-3=Excellent

<b>Ideology</b>	<b>Knowledge of topic</b>	<b>Quality of Solutions offered</b>
<b>1.64</b>	<b>1.75</b>	<b>1.40</b>

#### **ANSWER: JANICE ARNOLD JONES**

I believe each individual has the right to defend themselves and their family at all times.

As a country, we have already decided that certain weapons are not permitted for public use, automatic and semi-automatic rifles included. We have demonstrated that agency reporting requirements, list keeping (TSA no fly list), various background checks and other systems have completely failed. Other approaches to consider:

- Institute 3 year weapons safety certification programs that may be renewed with refresher training, for individuals purchasing a weapon. (This will do nothing for existing owners or gift recipients.)



- Fire “agency” staff employees, for cause, for failure to timely load and disseminate existing background check information.
- Aggressively arrest and try property crime and drug cases involving weapons.
- **Stop the media circus!** Call on all media to refrain from glorifying acts of terror.
- While names are important, faces of perpetrators should be blurred out. Give the facts only and limit details.
- Remove any and all designations of “gun free” locations, schools, churches, restaurants, etc., that make users of such locations easy targets.
- Shorten time required for physicians prescribing psychotropic, anti-psychotic (including Ritalin) medicines to see patients. There is a strong correlation between sudden cessation of these types of drugs and loss of impulse control.
- **Call on the entertainment industry to model “problem solving”** with something other than a “shoot’em up scenario”. Entertainment industry modeling of police officers using excessive force or weapons, without considering other options, undermines the very work a majority of police departments are doing to implement better use of force policies.

**QUESTION 9:**

After the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) scrapped net neutrality rules last year, states and cities across the U.S. have led efforts to restore net neutrality and sought to insulate their communities from the effects of the FCC’s repeal. How would you fight to ensure equal access to content for New Mexicans?

**INH RATING of this Response**

0-1= Poor, 1-2=Good, 2-3=Excellent

Ideology	Knowledge of topic	Quality of Solutions offered
1.85	2.00	1.55

**ANSWER: JANICE ARNOLD JONES**

1. I am still working on **access** which is a primary problem in New Mexico. I am a strong believer in the market shaping services. In New Mexico, with our expansive distances between our largest urban centers to our smallest villages, the business case for Century Link (US West, Mountain Bell, ATT, etc.) to develop access across the state does not exist.
2. I believe that with effort, we can change the FCC rules that gives entities like Century link control of our communication backbone. In addition, New Mexico must change the rules for its carriers. In New Mexico, Century Link is regulated like a utility. Competitors

such as Verizon, ATT, Sprint, T-Mobile, Comcast, provide almost identical services as Century Link but without the burden of PRC rules.

3. The result is: New Mexico lags in connectivity which impacts our ability to engage in commerce nationally and internationally.

Are there lessons to be learned from previous efforts in New Mexico and in other U.S. states?

**ANSWER: JANICE ARNOLD JONES**

*See above.*

**QUESTION 10:**

Trump’s “\$1.5 trillion infrastructure plan” is really \$200 billion in federal funding that leaves state and local governments to cover 80% of project costs? How do you envision paying for infrastructure projects in New Mexico?

**INH RATING of this Response**

0-1= Poor, 1-2=Good, 2-3=Excellent

Ideology	Knowledge of topic	Quality of Solutions offered
1.90	1.63	1.35

**ANSWER: JANICE ARNOLD JONES**

I am concerned that the current infrastructure proposal will exclude most of New Mexico’s rural communities. The belief that a local community should make an investment in a project makes sense, but many times, the cost of a project, like drilling a well, far exceeds what small communities can raise.

The best way to use the current Federal infrastructure proposal or variation thereof is for New Mexico to **get a grip** and decide that our system of Capital Outlay must be revamped so we all deciding on the most important projects around the state and **fully funding those priorities**. The rural nature of our State must be acknowledged with a commitment to improve the entire State not just the urban areas.

**US House of Representatives, CD - 1 - Respondent -Damon Martinez**

**QUESTION 1:**

The attack on the ACA fundamentally is an attack on the concept that adequate health care is a right and not a privilege and that the government has a significant role in ensuring that access. What have you done and what will you do to ensure all New Mexicans have access to adequate health care?

### INH RATING of this Response

0-1= Poor, 1-2=Good, 2-3=Excellent

Ideology	Knowledge of topic	Quality of Solutions offered
2.57	1.95	1.52

### ANSWER: DAMON MARTINEZ

I support universal health care. Healthcare is a critical issue, nationally, but particularly for New Mexicans. The implementation of the ACA and Medicaid expansion dramatically lessened the number of uninsured New Mexicans. But even with Medicaid expansion, which many states, particularly poor states governed by Republicans, did not opt into, we still have uninsured people unable to access the health care this need. Lack of insurance not only detrimentally affect the people who are uninsured, it affects the entire system. People without insurance rarely receive primary care, and thus when they seek treatment, they do so for serious and very expensive illnesses. For example, a person with diabetes that goes untreated will progress to kidney disease requiring life-long dialysis and other complications, including gangrene and limbs requiring amputation.

These complications are life-shattering for people and their families and incredibly costly for the health system. Universal health care would avoid many of these complications because individuals would be receiving primary care screenings and treatment, and in a well-designed system, preventative care, so they never develop a chronic disease in the first place. No person should have whether they live or die determined by how much they make or by an insurance company.

### QUESTION 2:

What specific steps did you take in your previous positions to ensure proportional representation of traditionally underrepresented groups (women, People of Color (POC), LGBT+ individuals, individuals with disabilities) in your businesses/firms/administrations? What lessons would you bring with you to the House of Representatives to improve representation in your administration and the country more widely?

### INH RATING of this Response

0-1= Poor, 1-2=Good, 2-3=Excellent

Ideology	Knowledge of topic	Quality of Solutions offered
2.19	2.05	1.62

**ANSWER: DAMON MARTINEZ**

As U.S. Attorney for the District of New Mexico, and as a candidate for Congress, hiring a diverse staff has been a top priority. My campaign manager, Abigail Collazo, is one of just a few Latina managers nationwide, and she is the only female campaign manager in our race. My Finance Director is Latino, and our call time manager is a woman. Additionally, my senior campaign advisers are Latinas and a Latino, and my Finance Committee includes diverse representation. In the U.S Attorney's office, my Executive Assistant was a Latina (she continues to hold that position) , and I created a community outreach position which was held by an African-American woman.

I have been strongly committed to diversity in hiring throughout my entire career, and I would continue that commitment in Congress.

**QUESTION 3:**

What steps would you take to address prevention of and consequences for sexual misconduct in the workplace? Why do you think these specific efforts will be more successful than previous efforts at curbing rampant sexual misconduct?

**INH RATING of this Response**

0-1= Poor, 1-2=Good, 2-3=Excellent

Ideology	Knowledge of topic	Quality of Solutions offered
2.81	2.71	2.48

**ANSWER: DAMON MARTINEZ**

I have been committed to safe working environments for my entire career. The #MeToo movement has exposed deep and systematic problems within our society and in our workplaces, and I stand firmly with those who have been silenced or marginalized in their quest for justice. My entire campaign staff has completed anti-sexual harassment training, and we have a clear no tolerance policy. Efforts on a broad scale have failed in the past for a number of reasons: one is that while there was an effort to put laws and regulations in place, there was less effort put on changing a culture. Having more women in leadership and senior roles can help combat a tendency to fall back on previously accepted behaviors, and as well, having

leadership from the top down draw clear, distinct lines about cultural norms can aid in setting expectations.

Sexual harassment and assault are not women's issues – they are men's issues. More often than not, men are the perpetrators of such behavior and actions, and it is up to us to hold each other accountable and to offer support to survivors who come forward.

As U.S. Attorney, I worked on numerous cases of domestic violence and sexual assault. Most notably, when I became aware of a specific crime, I directed the Department of Justice to investigate how the University of New Mexico was handling its own reporting of sexual harassment or assault claims. We found a corrupt system that protected the perpetrator while leaving the survivor to struggle alone. As a result, we worked with the university to implement new procedures and policies that ensured survivors were heard, were offered the resources and protections they needed, and were supported in their quest for justice. These new procedures are now implemented campus-wide, and students, teachers, and administrators alike are being educated about their rights and their responsibilities when it comes to reports of sexual harassment or assault.

#### **QUESTION 4:**

The Department of Justice has undermined ADA protections for individuals with disabilities by scraping and rescinding key guidance documents on topics ranging from employment to service animals. What steps would you take as our House Representative to ensure that New Mexicans with disabilities continue to have equal access to employment as well as public services and spaces despite federal efforts to repeal, replace, and modify existing legal guidance on the ADA?

#### **INH RATING of this Response**

0-1= Poor, 1-2=Good, 2-3=Excellent

<b>Ideology</b>	<b>Knowledge of topic</b>	<b>Quality of Solutions offered</b>
<b>2.38</b>	<b>2.19</b>	<b>1.62</b>

#### **ANSWER: DAMON MARTINEZ**

When I served as U.S. Attorney for New Mexico, my office devoted time and resources to prosecuting individuals who violated others' civil rights, and we made sure our community knew they could count on us to protect those rights. Advocates fought hard to pass a law that says Americans with disabilities must be treated with respect and provided for so that they can fully participate in public life, but now Congress is passing bills that gut the ADA. They've worked hard to shift the burden away from businesses that don't comply with ADA standards, and instead force individuals who are denied access to jump through even more hoops in order to

have their civil rights protected. As a federal official, I will work hard to ensure that Americans with disabilities are granted to same rights and protections as anyone else.

#### QUESTION 5:

Earlier this year President Trump tweeted "how can there be global warming when the northern states and the northeast has had a winter that is one of the coldest on record? All those countries that are spending billions to stop global warming are wasting money." What are your thoughts about this tweet? What policies would you propose to position NM as a leader in the fight to address the negative effects of climate change?

#### INH RATING of this Response

0-1= Poor, 1-2=Good, 2-3=Excellent

Ideology	Knowledge of topic	Quality of Solutions offered
2.76	2.67	2.62

#### ANSWER: DAMON MARTINEZ

This tweet is the perfect example of the kind of threat that we face – not just from climate change itself, but from those in power who dismiss it at our peril. With today's seemingly unending assault on our environment by the Trump Administration, the people of New Mexico's 1st Congressional District need a representative in Congress who will vehemently oppose all efforts to erode the regulations protecting our public lands, both here in New Mexico and across the nation. I will oppose any continuation of the subsidies given to the fossil fuel industries exacerbating climate change.

Because it is both good for the environment and good for New Mexico's economy, I will enthusiastically promote the use, continued investment in, and expansion of, renewable energy sources like wind and solar. Instead of building more oil rigs and drilling off our pristine coasts, we should be building offshore wind farms and taking advantage of an incredible, clean, untapped, and unlimited resource. I will support science-based fishery management, and believe the United States must continue to show we can be an international leader in the fight against not only overfishing, but illegal, unreported, and unregulated fishing as well. I will only support nominees who believe in science and evidence-based practices, defend environmental and public health protections, do not have conflicts of interest, and promise to uphold the mission of the agencies they will lead.

As a legislative staffer to both former Congressman Tom Udall and Senator Jeff Bingaman, I worked to advance a number of policy proposals designed to protect our environment. I'll continue that fight to strengthen and enforce legislation to promote green energy jobs, protect

our natural resources, and engage in the world in a sustainable way. I'll fight to ensure the EPA is fully funded here at home and that we re-engage with the Paris Accords.

Lastly, as the only candidate in my race who is a member of the U.S. Armed Forces, I'm uniquely prepared to address climate issues from a national and global security perspective. Climate change is affecting the movements of people, the availability of resources, and the stability of governments, and that instability is leading to more conflict and increased breeding grounds for exploitation and terrorism. I intend to use my expertise in national security issues to serve as a validator for the environmental justice community and to use my voice and experience to be a leader on environmental issue.

#### QUESTION 6:

How will you protect public lands and national monuments for current and future generations of New Mexicans?

#### INH RATING of this Response

0-1= Poor, 1-2=Good, 2-3=Excellent

Ideology	Knowledge of topic	Quality of Solutions offered
2.35	1.95	1.60

#### ANSWER: DAMON MARTINEZ

Given the large amount of public land in New Mexico, as well as its incredible natural beauty, New Mexicans deserve someone who will fight to save these incredible areas for future generations – someone who will expand the use of, and investment in, renewable energy sources, someone who understands the importance of laws like the Antiquities Act, and someone who will work tirelessly to protect vulnerable communities and families struggling against inequality across our state. As a former U.S. Attorney, not only have I witnessed the effects of environmental injustice firsthand – especially on Native communities – I have the experience necessary to accomplish all of these goals.

#### QUESTION 7:

Have you accepted campaign contributions from the following industries? If so why and are you willing to give them back and pledge not to accept additional contributions?

Fossil fuel industry?

The pharmaceutical industry?

The NRA or gun lobby?

The tobacco industry?

### INH RATING of this Response

0-1= Poor, 1-2=Good, 2-3=Excellent

Ideology	Knowledge of topic	Quality of Solutions offered
2.75	2.78	2.67

**ANSWER: DAMON MARTINEZ**

I have accepted no funds from these industries and have no intention of doing so.

### QUESTION 8:

What does “common sense gun control” mean to you? What measures would you take to improve gun safety?

### INH RATING of this Response

0-1= Poor, 1-2=Good, 2-3=Excellent

Ideology	Knowledge of topic	Quality of Solutions offered
2.85	2.85	2.75

**ANSWER: DAMON MARTINEZ**

As former U.S. Attorney, I made it a priority to get illegal guns off the streets and to prosecute criminals who were wreaking havoc on our communities. But the kind of gun violence we’ve seen spike in recent years is a different kind of crime, and it needs a different kind of solution.

We know the answers, and despite the grip of the gun lobby, the majority of Americans agree that we need to put in place better laws to prevent gun violence. These include banning assault weapons, banning bump stocks, expanding background checks, passing age-restrictions for gun purchases, implementing mandatory waiting periods on all gun purchases, maintaining regulations on silencers, and limiting large capacity magazines.

Additionally, we need to ensure weapons don’t end up in the hands of those with histories of domestic violence. The perpetrators of individual murders and mass shootings often have domestic violence records or else have been reported to be abusive to women in their lives. While all countries have domestic abusers, here in America, we allow abusers to be armed. This issue needs aggressive and immediate action as well.



Finally, as former Legislative Assistant for Senator Jeff Bingaman, I worked on legislation to ban assault weapons at the federal level. My extensive experience working on gun violence prevention in a variety of roles over the course of my career make me the best candidate to take on this issue and enact real change.

#### QUESTION 9:

After the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) scrapped net neutrality rules last year, states and cities across the U.S. have led efforts to restore net neutrality and sought to insulate their communities from the effects of the FCC's repeal. How would you fight to ensure equal access to content for New Mexicans? Are there lessons to be learned from previous efforts in New Mexico and in other U.S. states?

#### INH RATING of this Response

0-1= Poor, 1-2=Good, 2-3=Excellent

Ideology	Knowledge of topic	Quality of Solutions offered
1.00	1.00	1.00

**ANSWER: DAMON MARTINEZ**

(didn't submit an answer)

#### QUESTION 10:

Trump's "\$1.5 trillion infrastructure plan" is really \$200 billion in federal funding that leaves state and local governments to cover 80% of project costs? How do you envision paying for infrastructure projects in New Mexico?

#### INH RATING of this Response

0-1= Poor, 1-2=Good, 2-3=Excellent

Ideology	Knowledge of topic	Quality of Solutions offered
2.60	2.25	1.75

**ANSWER: DAMON MARTINEZ**

Our bridges and roads are crumbling, and I fully support investing more in our infrastructure. But we need to remember that such investment needs to be for the public good, and that's why the government needs to keep control over the spending. We cannot privatize projects that serve the public good and risk having profit direct infrastructure spending.

More importantly, we need to invest in infrastructure at the federal level, instead of leaving it up to the states and local governments as this plan would do. Federal investments lead to economies of scale, which allows states to share administrative costs. When we block grant, you create redundancy in administration cost and bureaucracy, which siphons off money that could be used on the projects themselves. New Mexico is simply in too precarious a position to be dismissed by the federal government and left to fend for ourselves when it comes to a building infrastructure to sustain us into the future.

## US House of Representatives, CD - 1 - Respondent - Deb Haaland

**QUESTION 1:**

The attack on the ACA fundamentally is an attack on the concept that adequate health care is a right and not a privilege and that the government has a significant role in ensuring that access. What have you done and what will you do to ensure all New Mexicans have access to adequate health care?

**INH RATING of this Response**

0-1= Poor, 1-2=Good, 2-3=Excellent

Ideology	Knowledge of topic	Quality of Solutions offered
2.90	2.90	2.62

**ANSWER: DEB HAALAND**

I have spoken continuously about the need for Medicare for All since the beginning of my campaign, and was the first candidate to publicly and loudly advocate for it. As a long-time activist in the Democratic Party, I have aggressively supported efforts led by Senator Sanders and others to take steps to fix our broken healthcare system.

I understand the move to single payer - Medicare for All will be an arduous process in the face of our deeply entrenched healthcare industry, one based on profits over people. However, I

would be a strong ally and advocate for moving this forward, and look forward to working with Rep. Keith Ellison and the Congressional Progressive Caucus towards its passage.

In the meantime, we must fight the current administration's efforts to chip away and undermine the ACA at every opportunity. We must re-implement mandatory coverage requirements and stabilize the insurance markets while we work to reinvent our healthcare system as we know it. I would advocate for returned efforts to outreach to enroll people during open enrollment.

Passage of the Affordable Care Act was one of President Obama's crowning achievements and as a result, millions of Americans finally have health insurance. The Affordable Care Act and expansion of Medicaid in New Mexico created good, critical jobs in health care, and we simply can't afford to see this growth disappear. The health of Americans must no longer be a commodity to be traded, bought, or sold for profit by the insurance and pharmaceutical industries. We must promote medical and Medicaid home models to provide comprehensive care for body, mind, and spirit.

Stuck between the strong reforms of the ACA and the terrifying prospect of nothing at all, now is the time for us to think beyond plans and insurance, and build a vision for healthcare that moves the dial on the overall health and wellbeing of all Americans, including paid family leave, sick leave, and maternity leave. In fact, I was also the *only* candidate in this race to support a sick leave ordinance in the City of Albuquerque last summer, and helped organized to move it forward.

Finally, patient-centered means removing barriers to low-cost prescription drugs and increasing access to alternative healing methods. The big pharma-FDA revolving door seems to drive profits to the pharmaceutical industry, so it's no surprise that big pharma is one of the largest opponents to cannabis legalization. Cannabis should be legalized, regulated, and promoted as proven effective treatment for substance abuse disorders, HIV/AIDS & chronic illness, pain management, PTSD and other mental health issues - I am proud of my support from one of Congress' leading legalization proponents - Rep. Earl Blumenauer. It is also the kind of revenue generator we need to help fund a universal healthcare system, a by-product of which would ease overburdened court systems and prisons.

Medicaid and the Children's Health Insurance Program provide health and long-term care coverage to more than 787,000 low-income children, pregnant women, adults, seniors, and people with disabilities in New Mexico. In Congress, I will fight to protect these critical programs from the Republican attempts to slash them. Given the enormous tax cuts that the Republican Congress handed out to the country's top 1%, the Republican majority will be looking for revenue. I will be a stronghold against any further cuts to these programs that serve so many New Mexicans.

## **QUESTION 2:**

What specific steps did you take in your previous positions to ensure proportional representation of traditionally underrepresented groups (women, People of Color (POC), LGBT+

individuals, individuals with disabilities) in your businesses/firms/administrations? What lessons would you bring with you to the House of Representatives to improve representation in your administration and the country more widely?

### **INH RATING of this Response**

**0-1= Poor, 1-2=Good, 2-3=Excellent**

<b>Ideology</b>	<b>Knowledge of topic</b>	<b>Quality of Solutions offered</b>
<b>2.90</b>	<b>2.95</b>	<b>2.62</b>

### **ANSWER: DEB HAALAND**

If elected, I will be the first Native American woman ever to serve in Congress. I have spent my career fighting to ensure that underrepresented communities have a seat at the table. As a member of a community of people who could not vote in state elections in NM until 1948, I started my time in the Democratic Party as an organizer, and I am passionate about everyone's right to vote. I served as President Obama's Native American Vote Director in 2012 and drove to all corners of New Mexico to ensure that tribal communities could participate. I personally have registered thousands of Native Americans to vote. Equal representation is critically important and if elected, I intend to continue to mentor and encourage more marginalized peoples to get involved and run for office. I believe representation requires participation, and that participation is the most important aspect of our democracy. I support all legislation that will increase voter turnout.

In addition to supporting legislation that would return voting rights to convicted felons while they are in prison, I also support all voting rights legislation that would increase the ability of all people to participate fully in our democracy such as: Same Day Voter Registration; making Election Day a holiday; the Automatic Voter Registration Act, and Weekend voting. I will actively oppose all Republican efforts to require voter identification and would weaken the Voting Rights Act. I support ensuring there is language access and full outreach to all voters.

In my leadership roles, I have advocated for marginalized communities as often as possible, and when there was legislation that affected the community, I always showed up to speak out in favor of progress, and to speak out against those that sought to roll the clock back on the strides we have made. I have been a strong advocate for today's movements led by marginalized communities: Black Lives Matter, the #METOO agenda, the fight to protect DREAMers, opposing Trump's attempt to ban Muslims, the March for Our Lives led by young people - we adults should take lessons from all of them and I would proudly be a voice for them in Congress.

I have long been active on the ground in fighting for equity for all. As Chairwoman of the Democratic Party of NM, I helped to pass and bring attention to SB 121 in 2017 which banned the practice of conversion therapy on minors in the state and was signed into law. In that same

legislative session, I supported SB 120, which would have changed the requirements for transgender/gnc New Mexicans to be able to change the sex designation on their birth certificate. In Congress, I will support legislation that protects our LGBTQ+ community from discrimination and unjust treatment under the law, and would join the Congressional Equality Caucus.

I pledge to ensure that my staff is representative of the diversity in our state, which includes members of the LGBTQ+, the disabled, and communities of color. My campaign staff is representative of that commitment: We are a strong majority of women, and include Native Americans, Latinas, single parents and members of the LGBTQ+ community. I come from one of the most underrepresented communities in the country; ensuring that my staff reflect the diversity of this district will always be my priority. Representation matters. I would make sure that all my staff receives racial and gender equity training.

I signed a Nasty Women pledge that I posted publicly that states: "Pledge that if elected, you will aim to hire a gender balanced staff, both in numbers and positions of power, and inclusive of people of color; a staff as diverse as New Mexico. Pledge to create a workplace that promotes and implements anti-harassment policies, and that broadens the representation of marginalized groups on your staff."

I have lived progressive values that underlie the sentiment in this question. My story is the story of every hard working New Mexican. I am enrolled member of the Pueblo of Laguna. I grew up in a military family; my father was a 30-year combat Marine during Vietnam, and my mother is a Navy veteran who worked in Indian education. I know the sacrifices made by military families — I have lived them.

As a single mom, I volunteered at my daughter's preschool in order to afford tuition, I've relied on food stamps, lived paycheck-to-paycheck and put myself through college and law school. I know the day to struggles of many New Mexicans. As a former small-business owner I know what it's like to make payroll, pay taxes, and keep food on the table, and to date my daughter and I are still working to pay off our student loans. Hard work and determination pays off.

In law school, I helped pass a bill that gave in-state tuition to enrolled members of NM tribes regardless of their residency — it has helped the most underrepresented to achieve their educational goals.

I am only candidate in this race to go to Standing Rock, North Dakota to stand with the water protectors and indigenous communities, and come back to New Mexico and divest the Democratic Party from Well Fargo.

I show up and follow through on what I believe in. I walk the walk. I will always be on the side of the worker, and I will always fight the inequalities in this country.

**QUESTION 3:**

That steps would you take to address prevention of and consequences for sexual misconduct in the workplace? Why do you think these specific efforts will be more successful than previous efforts at curbing rampant sexual misconduct?

**INH RATING of this Response**

0-1= Poor, 1-2=Good, 2-3=Excellent

Ideology	Knowledge of topic	Quality of Solutions offered
2.86	2.86	2.76

**ANSWER: DEB HAALAND**

Thankfully, the past cultural and social norms regarding sexual misconduct in the workplace have been eroding, but still present immense challenges while women of every race, religion and economic strata are victims of these abhorrent practices. The #MeToo movement has been a game changer and provides the opportunity to make progress in these areas. I fully favor stronger penalties and no tolerance policies on harassment and abuse, and will advocate for victims to have a say in punishment. In Congress, I will support any and all efforts that help move our society forward in making these kinds of behaviors totally unacceptable in any way, shape or form. I am glad that Congress has moved forward with legislation to tighten the procedures for the handling of sexual harassment on the Hill, but they haven't gone far enough yet. And the issue is clearly bigger than Congress. As the Violence Against Women Act comes up for reauthorization, that would also provide a forum to continue to fight against sexual abuse, including the 85% of Native American women who will suffer sexual violence in their lifetimes.

Sexual harassment is a form of sex discrimination that violates Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. However, there are serious deficiencies in the current federal anti-discrimination law that I believe Congress should explore fixing Congress can amend or add to federal anti-discrimination law by explicitly authorizing suits against alleged harassers. Title VII allows *employers* to be sued but does not authorize suits against the person who engages in the sexual harassment. The company that employed Weinstein can be sued under Title VII, yet Weinstein himself cannot be held liable under Title VII.

Also, Congress should prohibit confidentiality agreements in settlement of sexual harassment claims. Publicizing sexual harassment settlements would likely deter wrongdoing and at the very least identify repeat offenders. If the initial settlements against any one of the most recent egregious offenders in the news had been public, the changes of repeated harassment would have been diminished.

Congress can also amend the Federal Arbitration Act to make it clear that victims of discrimination, including those subjected to sexual harassment, can go to court and not need to use private arbitration.

Hopefully some of these changes could help ensure that victims of discrimination and harassment are more comfortable coming forward knowing that justice could truly be served, and harassers actually are punished.

Finally, I would push for increased funding for the EEOC so they can handle more effectively the many claims that are brought to them.

#### QUESTION 4:

The Department of Justice has undermined ADA protections for individuals with disabilities by scraping and rescinding key guidance documents on topics ranging from employment to service animals. What steps would you take as our House Representative to ensure that New Mexicans with disabilities continue to have equal access to employment as well as public services and spaces despite federal efforts to repeal, replace, and modify existing legal guidance on the ADA?

#### INH RATING of this Response

0-1= Poor, 1-2=Good, 2-3=Excellent

Ideology	Knowledge of topic	Quality of Solutions offered
2.86	2.90	2.76

#### ANSWER: DEB HAALAND

Advocating for the disabled community is a priority for me. One of my two campaign offices is ADA compliant. I made sure to open a second office that is more widely used by the public - and that was ADA compliant. We make every attempt to ensure that all campaign activities are ADA Compliant. My mother is confined to a wheelchair and I am a frequent caretaker. I have long been attuned to the challenges and needs of the disabled community and will be a strong advocate for them in Congress.

It is horrible that the Americans with Disabilities Act has been law for nearly three decades, yet under the Trump Administration, it is under hostile attack. Just like Trump has gone after every marginalized community - Muslims, Native Americans, African Americans, DREAMers, he is also going after the disabled community, even though they represent 1 in 5 Americans.

When the House Republican Majority voted to gut the ADA, I spoke out strongly. The bill weakens incentives for businesses to comply with the ADA which mandates equal access to

public accommodations. It isn't fair to shift the burden away from businesses and onto individuals with disabilities. It is now in the Senate and I hope it will die there.

If elected, I would support the Safe Equitable Campus resources and Education (SECURE) Act, important legislation that would strengthen campus sexual assault protections for students with disabilities. Our disabled students here at UNM and NM State must have the same protections afforded to the able community.

I believe the Justice Department's scrapping of regulations important to the disabled community sends the wrong signal to public entities and employment service providers about what is necessary to comply with the ADA's integration mandate with respect to employment services. Some business groups have already claimed that the withdrawal eliminates the integration mandate in employment services. This withdrawal of guidance reflects a lack of concern by Trump's Justice Department with ensuring that public entities provide employment services allowing the disabled community to work in competitive integrated employment.

I would also support the EMPOWER Care Act and funding for the Money Follows the Person program, Congress can help more people with disabilities transition out of institutions and nursing homes and into the homes and communities of their choice. Congress needs to act now so that more people aren't stuck in institutions.

#### **QUESTION 5:**

Earlier this year President Trump tweeted "how can there be global warming when the northern states and the northeast has had a winter that is one of the coldest on record? All those countries that are spending billions to stop global warming are wasting money." What are your thoughts about this tweet? What policies would you propose to position NM as a leader in the fight to address the negative effects of climate change?

#### **INH RATING of this Response**

**0-1= Poor, 1-2=Good, 2-3=Excellent**

<b>Ideology</b>	<b>Knowledge of topic</b>	<b>Quality of Solutions offered</b>
<b>2.90</b>	<b>2.90</b>	<b>2.71</b>

#### **ANSWER: DEB HAALAND**

That tweet is just one of thousands of ridiculous, uninformed statements by our President and only echoes the sentiments of the climate deniers. It also demonstrates the President doesn't understand the distinction between weather and climate change, or that extreme weather is more than just hot.



The truth is that climate change poses a real threat to our economy and our way of life through extreme weather, increasing drought, and severe heat waves across the Southwest. At the same time, the fossil fuel industry is making billions by putting our communities in harm's way, and forcing us to pay to clean up their mess. We need to act fast to counteract climate change and keep fossil fuels in the ground. I pledge to vote against all new fossil fuel infrastructure, and to fight instead for 100% renewable energy -- including tens of thousands of solar energy jobs for New Mexicans. We deserve representatives in Congress who will stand up to the fossil fuel industry, and I will. Indigenous rights and the fight for climate justice cannot be separated, and I will fight for tribal nations across the country who are battling the fossil fuel industry in their backyard.

We cannot ignore the endless amounts of data, the scientific community at large, and what we are witnessing when it comes to our earth's response to carbon and other greenhouse gas pollution. Ice caps and permafrost are melting, and weather patterns are changing and becoming more violent; these are not opinions -- these are the facts.

We need to keep and advance our global and national commitments to reducing carbon pollution, and ensure we have a well funded EPA to oversee regulatory requirements -- including leadership, management and staff who know climate change is real and that we must act boldly and swiftly. Corporations that pollute must be regulated, and there must be real consequences for violations. **Taxpayers should not be paying to clean up their mess.**

Climate change is a national security threat and it should be treated as such. Just take a look what is happening in Florida, Houston and Puerto Rico. National defense spending must also include defense of our environment. We have world-renowned scientists and labs including right here in NM-01 with Sandia Labs, and they should be funded to explore and produce solutions for safe and sustainable environmental practices. Without a sustainable planet to inhabit, national defense has no purpose.

New Mexico's economy would be so much stronger if we would fully capitalize on our solar, wind, and geothermal energy sources. I will work to make New Mexico the clean energy leader in the nation, which will also make our economy more secure with sustainable, good-paying jobs.

I will champion efforts in Congress that make it easier to transition to clean energy, and provide incentives for individuals, businesses, and states that make the transition. I will advocate for robust training programs to build a qualified workforce for the clean energy industry, and to ensure we don't leave oil and coal workers or anybody behind.

In Congress, **I will not ignore the hard facts of climate change, and I will fight for the hard facts of science to inform environmental policy and how we use taxpayer dollars.** I will also fight to regulate our biggest polluters and ensure accountability

I will also strongly support investments into renewable energy infrastructure, including long overdue upgrades to make our passenger and freight train system high speed and electric. I support new solar standards for homes being built in the US, including charging stations and

panels on every new home. I will support efforts to force the Trump Administration to re-enter the Paris Climate Agreement. I will stand up to utility companies that seek to put profits over people. A schedule and funding plan must be created to decommission all fossil fuel power plants and I will fight to be at any table where those discussions are taking place.

If elected, I will also push the Sustainable Energy and Environment Caucus (SEEC), to a more aggressive approach to fighting climate change: including 100% clean energy and no new fossil fuel infrastructure. As a freshman, I will be seeking to serve on the House Natural Resources Committee if elected, where I can be on the frontlines of these critical issues.

#### QUESTION 6:

How will you protect public lands and national monuments for current and future generations of New Mexicans?

#### INH RATING of this Response

0-1= Poor, 1-2=Good, 2-3=Excellent

Ideology	Knowledge of topic	Quality of Solutions offered
2.95	2.90	2.60

#### ANSWER: DEB HAALAND

I support protecting and expanding our public lands. They are our heritage, and they support recreation economies that create revenue and jobs. Public lands also help preserve ancient histories of people who came before us -- people who better understood the importance of honoring our land, water, and air. I've stood up to Trump and Interior Secretary Zinke and their plans to shrink national monuments and auction off land for extraction and profits. In Congress, I will keep up the fight for what rightfully belongs to the people.

I am deeply concerned about this Administration's efforts, backed by the fossil fuel industry, to sell off public lands and I have been leading voice against that move. Trump has an insidious agenda to turn control of America's shared parks and other public lands to the states, where they would undoubtedly be sold or leased to corporate special interests to boost their profits from logging, mining and drilling. In states such as NM, under a Republican Governor such as ours, any land turned over to the state would immediately be leased for drilling or mining. I am wholeheartedly opposed to this notion. I am unequivocally dedicated to our sacred lands here in NM and across the country. Chaco Canyon is one of the Pueblo peoples ancestral homelands and must be protected. In a recent profile published by Huffington Post, I spoke of my opposition to land leases in and around Chaco Canyon. Since then the plans for these leases have been cancelled and I am pleased to have been a part of the vocal opposition to those plans that have been scuttled for now. I will be ready to protest any abject action that reemerges.

Another example is Trump's action last December to gut the 1.35 million-acre Bears Ears National Monument by 85 percent, reducing it to just over 200,000 acres. The Republican leadership in Congress is openly pushing for increased drilling and mining on these public lands at the expense of wildlife, sacred sites and outdoor recreation. I would make it a priority to fight these efforts, if elected, and would oppose all legislation that would allow our national forests, refuges, parks and other shared federal public lands to be turned over to state control.

A large part of this assault on public lands also has everything to do with Indian lands and the fact that Indian Tribes did not - in large part, have a say in the drawing of the boundaries to our respective Pueblos, nations, reservations and Communities. Many of our sacred sites are located outside our exterior boundaries and as it stands, if those lands fall into the hands of private owners, a huge part of our country's history and culture stand to be destroyed. I have fought wholeheartedly against this theft of our public lands and I will fight a loud and sustained battle to ensure that all Americans benefit - not just a few oil barons. It is no secret that the fossil fuel industry wants to buy up these parcels and begin drilling and mining. Instead, our country should be focused on expanding renewable energy and using all the available resources to fight climate change.

Keeping dirty fossil fuels in the ground is essential to meeting carbon reduction goals to address climate change and protect some of our most beautiful lands in the process.

I would support legislation to designate the coastal plain of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge as wilderness and protect it from oil and gas drilling. I would also protect the original intent of the Antiquities Act which provides presidents with the authority to permanently protect special natural, cultural, and historical areas on federal public land as national monuments, and to do so swiftly in the face of threats.

I also know what it's like to have to live with the cruel and expansive mess of uranium tailings for decades. Laguna Pueblo was home to the largest open pit uranium mine in the world. At one time, there were 3 open pit and 9 underground mines. Our community is still dealing with the devastating environmental, physical, social, and economic effects of this Jackpile Mining Operation. People are still dying of cancer and other physical issues, hundreds of years old homes at Paguate Village are still cracked apart, and the land is perpetually scarred. The EPA is responsible for identifying and managing the clean up - regardless of whether the US Government forces the companies responsible for funding these projects. In the case of Laguna, the mine closed in 1980, the Anaconda Mining company pulled out and left the uranium blowing around for decades before clean-up began. The federal government needs to put real money behind clean up projects and in Congress, I will push for real funding and accountability.

I would do everything possible to protect public lands and national areas. I would also support full funding of the Land and Water Conservation Fund in order to support our lands and waterways. I don't think Congress should divert this funding to anything other than conserving open spaces. Congress should enact legislation to fully fund and permanently authorize the Land and Water Conservation Fund.

**QUESTION 7:**

Have you accepted campaign contributions from the following industries? If so why and are you willing to give them back and pledge not to accept additional contributions?

- a. Fossil fuel industry?
- b. The pharmaceutical industry?
- c. The NRA or gun lobby?
- d. The tobacco industry?

**INH RATING of this Response**

0-1= Poor, 1-2=Good, 2-3=Excellent

Ideology	Knowledge of topic	Quality of Solutions offered
2.90	2.84	2.89

**ANSWER: DEB HAALAND**

I have not, and will not, accept contributions from any of these industries. Additionally, I will not accept contributions from corporate PACs. I will fight to overturn Citizens United and to get special interest money out of politics. Moreover, I am the *only* candidate in this race who hasn't loaned her campaign money. I am proud of the fact that my campaign is fueled primarily by small donations; over 80% of my donations are under \$100.

**QUESTION 8:**

What does "common sense gun control" mean to you? What measures would you take to improve gun safety?

**INH RATING of this Response**

0-1= Poor, 1-2=Good, 2-3=Excellent

Ideology	Knowledge of topic	Quality of Solutions offered
3.00	3.00	2.95

**ANSWER: DEB HAALAND**

Common sense gun control must be addressed *now*. I am inspired by the generation of young people who will not take No for an answer. I am hopeful that the moment has come when Congress will take meaningful action. If elected, I intend to be a forceful voice for gun safety.

I have attended many vigils and rallies calling for gun safety legislation. I promote common-sense gun policies and the demilitarization of police on my social media pages, on my website and in my interaction with voters on a regular basis.

While I am respectful of the 2nd Amendment, I also believe it was adopted in different times. The framers of the constitution did not anticipate modern firearms and the problems in our modern society. The interpretation today of the second amendment is anachronistic. I have no desire to “take guns away” from Americans who are not criminals, domestic abusers or dangerously mentally ill; however, it is evident to me that I have a different interpretation of the Second Amendment than the NRA or Republicans. In it is way past time for Congress to enact common-sense gun safety legislation.

I am heartened that in the passage of the recent FY18 Omnibus legislation, Congress did finally allow for funding to conduct gun violence research, in order to better understand the causes and impacts of gun violence, and overturning decades of bad precedence.

Specifically, I would vote and advocate for:

- If elected, I would fight hard in Congress to help pass the Assault Weapons Ban and a Bump Stock Ban. There is no reason that Americans should be living in fear of dangerous individuals who have access to military-style assault weapons. In is time that Congress has a vote on reinstating the assault weapons ban and ban high-capacity magazines, along with ghost guns.
- Expanding background checks, particularly for unlicensed dealers, private and online and gun show purchases. Background checks are the first line of defense in our efforts to keep guns away from criminals, domestic abusers and the dangerously mentally ill. The unfettered proliferation of firearms around the country has created a dangerous and often tragic set of circumstances. Our lack of regulation and oversight in this area is a critical component of what I believe is common-sense gun safety legislation – desperately needed to ensure that guns don’t fall into the wrong hands and aren’t illegally trafficked. I joined Moms Demand Action in a meeting with the Sheriff of Bernalillo County to urge him to support legislation closing loopholes on background checks.
- I would fight for new laws to block convicted stalkers and domestic abusers, including dating partners, from buying and possessing guns. More than half of all women murdered in the United States are killed by an intimate partner with a gun; the chance of being murdered by an abusive partner increases five-fold when there is a gun the home. My home state of New Mexico has the 7<sup>th</sup> highest rate of women being killed by men – the majority of which occur with a firearm. As a Native American woman, I am also keenly aware of the appalling rate of domestic abuse and even murder propagated against Native women, often by use of gun. I believe that stalkers and abusers have forfeited their rights to purchase or possess a gun.

- In Congress, I will also fight to enact legislation that would prohibit those subject to a domestic violence temporary restraining order from purchasing or possessing firearms (not just those with restraining orders) – in all states. Congress needs to also enact federal laws requiring abusers to surrender guns they already own.
- Gun trafficking is a huge contributor to our gun violence problem today. Sadly, New Mexico is known as a favorite state for gun traffickers to purchase guns because of the weak laws in our state. I would fight for anti-gun trafficking legislation to ensure that there are harsh federal penalties for straw purchases. Part of fighting gun trafficking also means stopping the NRA's attempt to enact concealed carry reciprocity - their undisguised attempt to undermine those states with stringent gun laws.
- I believe there we must enact liability laws that ensure that the gun industry is accountable for irresponsible business practices. It is ridiculous that the toy industry has more civil liability today than the gun industry.
- I believe Congress needs to consistently and robustly fund community-based intervention programs proven to break the cycle of violence.

**QUESTION 9:**

After the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) scrapped net neutrality rules last year, states and cities across the U.S. have led efforts to restore net neutrality and sought to insulate their communities from the effects of the FCC's repeal. How would you fight to ensure equal access to content for New Mexicans? Are there lessons to be learned from previous efforts in New Mexico and in other U.S. states?

**INH RATING of this Response**

0-1= Poor, 1-2=Good, 2-3=Excellent

Ideology	Knowledge of topic	Quality of Solutions offered
2.90	2.85	2.70

**ANSWER: DEB HAALAND**

I am disappointed and frustrated by the FCC's decision to ignore the vast majority of Americans across the political spectrum, and instead side with corporations that now have the power to manipulate internet access based on who can pay more. This decision hurts small businesses and startups in New Mexico, and hurts consumers—especially in rural parts of our state where people already have to pay more for satellite access.

Net Neutrality is internet freedom. A free and open internet is crucial for innovation and the exchange of information and ideas. It allows grassroots communities to organize and mobilize against injustice across our nation and the globe. It's good for business, consumers, and our entire economy. It is imperative that Congress use the power afforded to them to overturn this

decision, and protect the American people from this historic mistake. While the FCC voted to end net neutrality rules, but Congress can overrule the FCC with the Congressional Review Act (CRA). Unlike a normal bill, the CRA only requires a simple majority in the Senate and House. Once we get the votes, we win. No filibuster. No procedural tricks. U.S. Sens. Maria Cantwell and Patty Murray are part of the effort to force a Senate vote on whether to override the FCC's net-neutrality reversal, which took effect on Feb. 22.

Also, 22 States have filed suit, including New Mexico, and as a Member of Congress, I would seek to sign on to an Amicus Brief.

States' ability to regulate broadband companies is generally preempted by federal rules, however experts believe that the FCC relinquished its authority over net neutrality rules by rescinding them nationally. As such, New Mexico also has authority to protect residents and I'd welcome working with incoming Governor Michelle Lujan Grisham to encourage passage of a Consumer Protection Act that would do just that in New Mexico.

### QUESTION 10:

Trump's "\$1.5 trillion infrastructure plan" is really \$200 billion in federal funding that leaves state and local governments to cover 80% of project costs? How do you envision paying for infrastructure projects in New Mexico?

### INH RATING of this Response

0-1= Poor, 1-2=Good, 2-3=Excellent

Ideology	Knowledge of topic	Quality of Solutions offered
2.95	2.90	2.70

### ANSWER: DEB HAALAND

Trump's infrastructure scam is outrageous. His plan to line the pockets of Wall Street billionaires will force hardworking New Mexicans to pay tolls in order to get to and from work.

Instead of investing to help New Mexico's ailing and outdated infrastructure, including the 167 high-hazard potential dams and 26% of our roads in poor condition, Trump will put a huge burden on cash strapped local governments such as the City of ABQ, and Bernalillo County. New Mexico's challenges are enormous. For example, driving on roads in need of repair in New Mexico costs each driver \$594 per year, and 6.5% of bridges are rated structurally deficient. Drinking water needs in New Mexico are an estimated \$1.16 billion, and wastewater needs total \$320 million. The state's schools have an estimated capital expenditure gap of \$407 million. Without investments in NM's infrastructure, our ability to compete in a global marketplace is harmed.

This nonsensical plan opens the floodgates to fossil fuel extraction, when we need to be moving to 100% renewable energy. The plan cuts review processes that provide Native communities a voice in protecting our rights, culture, and resources. I saw firsthand at Standing Rock that Indigenous Rights were being trampled –and this scam ignores Indigenous peoples’ voices.

The only Winners in Trump’s plan are the Fossil Fuel Industry, Wall Street and Climate Deniers. Trump’s plan would hard hard-working Americans, New Mexico and Native Americans all across the lands. Trump, however, isn’t going to have his way because there is bipartisan opposition to dumping the responsibility almost exclusively on state and local governments. And we all know that in New Mexico, a ‘toll road’ is nonsensical.

In Congress, I’ll fight for the Democratic infrastructure plan, one that prioritizes schools, renewable energy, hospitals, roads, and bridges and brings good paying jobs to hardworking New Mexicans. I am honored to be endorsed by Rep. Ted Lieu, the author of an alternative infrastructure vision by calling for direct public investment in roads, bridges and other public works, as opposed to providing “corporate giveaways” to spur private-sector investment. By injecting \$2 trillion into a wide range of transportation projects over 10 years, including those that boost public transit systems, water and sewer systems, clean-energy jobs, high-speed internet access and veterans hospitals, the initiative would also create 2.5 million jobs in the first year alone. It also makes extra steps to ensure fair wages, workplace safety and racial and gender equality - all of which are priorities for the people of New Mexico.

I would fight to double the investment in renewable energy which would generate revenue in New Mexico to pay for infrastructure needs, and create good paying jobs. I’m also a strong advocate for legalization in New Mexico which is projected to create 11,400 new manufacturing and marketing jobs, and 4,780 jobs in businesses that service the cannabis industry.

## US House of Representatives, CD - 1 - Respondent -Lloyd Princeton

### QUESTION 1:

The attack on the ACA fundamentally is an attack on the concept that adequate health care is a right and not a privilege and that the government has a significant role in ensuring that access. What have you done and what will you do to ensure all New Mexicans have access to adequate health care?

### INH RATING of this Response

0-1= Poor, 1-2=Good, 2-3=Excellent



Ideology	Knowledge of topic	Quality of Solutions offered
1.81	1.57	1.19

**ANSWER: LLOYD PRINCETON**

I believe that all Americans should have access to affordable healthcare. Period. I also believe that our current, government-lead bureaucratic system is beyond broken. The level of complexity created by having unnecessary departments, insurance billing, contributes to rising costs and less care. A Direct Primary Care model in which day-to-day needs are paid for on a cash basis (in lieu of insurance with co-pays, etc) with direct Rx dispensing by physicians would save lots of money and eliminate wasteful administrative overhead. Insurance for catastrophic accidents/illnesses would still have a place in the market. Those that cannot afford insurance could still receive coverage from their State programs.

**QUESTION 2:**

What specific steps did you take in your previous positions to ensure proportional representation of traditionally underrepresented groups (women, People of Color (POC), LGBT+ individuals, individuals with disabilities) in your businesses/firms/administrations? What lessons would you bring with you to the House of Representatives to improve representation in your administration and the country more widely?

**INH RATING of this Response**

**0-1= Poor, 1-2=Good, 2-3=Excellent**

Ideology	Knowledge of topic	Quality of Solutions offered
2.14	1.81	1.52

**ANSWER: LLOYD PRINCETON**

In over twenty years as a business owner, I have always hired people based on attitude and aptitude, regardless of their sex, color or life preferences. This has yielded a broad sampling of people and a diverse office environment. My consulting practice has also catered to female-owned businesses with a primary objective of helping them negotiate better fees for themselves, even when they didn't think it was possible. As a recruiter for clients around the country, I always present the candidates that are the most qualified again, not letting factors like age or other qualifiers get in the way of my making a recommendation. I have also volunteered with various at-risk youth groups to encourage them to reach for more than they might otherwise know or believe is possible. I believe that leadership requires leading by example and also letting people know that more is achievable.

**QUESTION 3:**

What steps would you take to address prevention of and consequences for sexual misconduct in the workplace? Why do you think these specific efforts will be more successful than previous efforts at curbing rampant sexual misconduct?

**INH RATING of this Response**

0-1= Poor, 1-2=Good, 2-3=Excellent

Ideology	Knowledge of topic	Quality of Solutions offered
2.33	1.90	1.67

**ANSWER: LLOYD PRINCETON**

I think we have started to see the change in culture from blaming the victim to holding the accuser accountable. I support and believe that we need to be firm with a zero tolerance for sexual misconduct. We see examples at all levels of business and government where prominent people are being made to answer for their crimes. I think we also need to stiffen penalties for crimes of sexual nature like rape. I also think that resources need to be provided and follow-up mandated for processing of rape kits. We can make room in our criminal system by decriminalizing non-violent and victimless crimes so that our police, judiciary and jails can focus their efforts on helping victims and providing for restitution, not the care and feeding of criminals. These efforts will be more successful because of the awareness that society now has.

**QUESTION 4:**

The Department of Justice has undermined ADA protections for individuals with disabilities by scraping and rescinding key guidance documents on topics ranging from employment to service animals. What steps would you take as our House Representative to ensure that New Mexicans with disabilities continue to have equal access to employment as well as public services and spaces despite federal efforts to repeal, replace, and modify existing legal guidance on the ADA?

**INH RATING of this Response**

0-1= Poor, 1-2=Good, 2-3=Excellent

Ideology	Knowledge of topic	Quality of Solutions offered
2.43	2.05	1.62

**ANSWER: LLOYD PRINCETON**

In February, the House passed a bill that critics say make it more difficult for the disabled to sue companies that don't comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act. The purpose of the bill was to discourage "legal shakedowns" but ultimately, we need to expedite the process that requires equal access to businesses and employment for people with disabilities. Not a day goes by where I wonder about the day-to-day activities that people without disabilities take for granted and also realize that while compliance to ADA can be expensive and inconvenient at times, we as a society need to bear the burden that comes with be enlightened and to share our wealth with each other, which means equal access. Period.

**QUESTION 5:**

Earlier this year President Trump tweeted "how can there be global warming when the northern states and the northeast has had a winter that is one of the coldest on record? All those countries that are spending billions to stop global warming are wasting money." What are your thoughts about this tweet? What policies would you propose to position NM as a leader in the fight to address the negative effects of climate change?

**INH RATING of this Response**

**0-1= Poor, 1-2=Good, 2-3=Excellent**

<b>Ideology</b>	<b>Knowledge of topic</b>	<b>Quality of Solutions offered</b>
<b>2.10</b>	<b>1.90</b>	<b>1.57</b>

**ANSWER: LLOYD PRINCETON**

I think we should focus on the policies coming out of the White House, not his Twitter. That being said, the changes in policy regarding the anti-science bill (See [https://www.washingtonpost.com/national/health-science/cdc-gets-list-of-forbidden-words-fetus-transgender-diversity/2017/12/15/f503837a-e1cf-11e7-89e8-edec16379010\\_story.html?utm\\_term=.2d24af52b44c](https://www.washingtonpost.com/national/health-science/cdc-gets-list-of-forbidden-words-fetus-transgender-diversity/2017/12/15/f503837a-e1cf-11e7-89e8-edec16379010_story.html?utm_term=.2d24af52b44c)) are alarming. We need to have scientific standards in our classrooms and our universities and to restrict free speech like that is borderline dictatorial. Climate change causes extremes in areas and this is the problem, so his Tweet ignores the realities. One of the ways that NM can provide national leadership is to continue to develop our renewable energies and to generate less waste as a community. Everything is interrelated and the amount of waste the we generate which requires "recycling", ends up in landfills generating gas emissions, and our over-reliance on plastics, all impact the global climate.

**QUESTION 6:**

How will you protect public lands and national monuments for current and future generations of New Mexicans?

**INH RATING of this Response**

**0-1= Poor, 1-2=Good, 2-3=Excellent**

Ideology	Knowledge of topic	Quality of Solutions offered
1.50	1.20	1.10

**ANSWER: LLOYD PRINCETON:**

I think that we should leave the land grants and national parks as they are. I will fight to keep New Mexico's land. I do not think the federal government should be real estate agents. We need to leave the federal land set aside alone, and leave the rest to the states to decide.

**QUESTION 7:**

Have you accepted campaign contributions from the following industries? If so why and are you willing to give them back and pledge not to accept additional contributions?

- a. Fossil fuel industry?
- b. The pharmaceutical industry?
- c. The NRA or gun lobby?
- d. The tobacco industry?

**INH RATING of this Response**

**0-1= Poor, 1-2=Good, 2-3=Excellent**

Ideology	Knowledge of topic	Quality of Solutions offered
2.65	2.61	2.50

**ANSWER: LLOYD PRINCETON**

No to all of the above. My vote is not for sale. While I am open to donations from all sources, I will always vote for and with my constituents, not by donors. I am driven by principles and policy, not by a party or industry.

**QUESTION 8:**

What does “common sense gun control” mean to you? What measures would you take to improve gun safety?

**INH RATING of this Response**

**0-1= Poor, 1-2=Good, 2-3=Excellent**

<b>Ideology</b>	<b>Knowledge of topic</b>	<b>Quality of Solutions offered</b>
<b>1.55</b>	<b>1.70</b>	<b>1.45</b>

**ANSWER: LLOYD PRINCETON**

Well, it depends what we’re talking here. New Mexico, as a state, has a very open stance on guns and ultimately I think each state should have their own sovereign laws as they see fit. I met with a constituent out in Tijeras and if he calls 911, they’re going to be at least 30 minutes away, and have to choose the right back roads to find him. He wants to be able to defend his family and I have a hard time saying no to that. Now on a federal level, I think we can agree on some “common sense gun control” meaning background checks for primary and secondary gun markets as well as restricted sales of bump stock and automatic weapons that fall outside of self-protection and recreational use. Outside of that, I think we should highlight gun-recycling programs to take weapons off the street they way we do with leftover, prescribed opioids.

**QUESTION 9:**

After the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) scrapped net neutrality rules last year, states and cities across the U.S. have led efforts to restore net neutrality and sought to insulate their communities from the effects of the FCC’s repeal. How would you fight to ensure equal access to content for New Mexicans? Are there lessons to be learned from previous efforts in New Mexico and in other U.S. states?

**INH RATING of this Response**

**0-1= Poor, 1-2=Good, 2-3=Excellent**

<b>Ideology</b>	<b>Knowledge of topic</b>	<b>Quality of Solutions offered</b>
<b>1.90</b>	<b>1.70</b>	<b>1.40</b>

**ANSWER: LLOYD PRINCETON**

I would fight to restore net neutrality. New Mexico is behind in terms of broadband capacity and the governor just recently signed a bill allowing for the expansion of access to New Mexicans. I think that those types of programs are the best, state-funded and designed within the state, not Washington. We also need to recognize that technology is the future and we need to make sure our children are just as proficient (think STEM) and have the same access as the rest of the country.

**QUESTION 10:**

Trump's "\$1.5 trillion infrastructure plan" is really \$200 billion in federal funding that leaves state and local governments to cover 80% of project costs? How do you envision paying for infrastructure projects in New Mexico?

**INH RATING of this Response**

0-1= Poor, 1-2=Good, 2-3=Excellent

Ideology	Knowledge of topic	Quality of Solutions offered
2.05	1.75	1.55

**ANSWER: LLOYD PRINCETON**

I think it is a bad deal for New Mexico. Anything short of a 50% coverage is forcing the state to be complicit in a bad deal. I think the states should be maintaining our roads and the federal government should be paying for federal roads. Having New Mexicans pay for the Paseo, I-25 interchange was a grave error, the federal government should have paid then, and I will hold them to pay their fair share of the projects in the future.

**US House of Representatives, CD - 1 - Respondent - Pat Davis****QUESTION 1:**

The attack on the ACA fundamentally is an attack on the concept that adequate health care is a right and not a privilege and that the government has a significant role in ensuring that access. What have you done and what will you do to ensure all New Mexicans have access to adequate health care?

**INH RATING of this Response**

0-1= Poor, 1-2=Good, 2-3=Excellent

Ideology	Knowledge of topic	Quality of Solutions offered
3.00	3.00	2.86

**ANSWER: PAT DAVIS**

Health care is a human right and I'm proud to not only be an early supporter of Medicare for all, but to be the only candidate in this race to earn an endorsement from any universal health care advocacy organization. After evaluating all the candidates, Demand Universal Healthcare (DUH!) endorsed me because of my record organizing for universal care.

Health care should be universal and accessible and not based on plans an employer picks for a workers' family. We can begin that transition by allowing companies to begin paying employee premiums into the Medicare trust fund to make Medicare's expansive and less costly provider network available to employees regardless of income.

When I started Progress Now New Mexico, our first campaign on national issues, "Know Your Care" was in support of a single-payer option for the ACA. And even though single-payer was not included in the final product, for the first two years of the ACA, I led campaigns with national Progress Now organizations and local groups, including Equality New Mexico, to target enrollment ads and emails to eligible New Mexicans. And when Republicans began their series of 50+ attempts to rollback those efforts, we returned to our members with the "Protect Your Care" campaign to encourage enrollees to contact Congress to protect the ACA.

And as public and elected officials, I believe we have an obligation not just to talk about healthcare, but also to build the networks to ensure that everyone knows their rights and to pass laws that provide for culturally and individually appropriate care, without regard for sex, sexual orientation or identity, economic or social background or religious beliefs. To that end, on the Albuquerque City Council, I have used my voice and my vote to:

- Sponsor the 2017 rally for universal healthcare at Tiguex Park for Indivisible Nob Hill
- Introduced amendments to the pending sick leave city ordinance to 1) expand requirements for providing leave from employers with 50+ employees to include every employer and 2) expand coverage for the use of family leave to include the use of leave for those caring for elderly parents, adult siblings with disabilities, LGBTQ partners and adopted children of LGBTQ partners.

In Congress, I'll proudly continue this work to ensure that we stop any attempt to block grant Medicaid to states, which is used to limit access to vital services, including abortion and reproductive care, to the poor.

And I'll continue my work to ensure that we don't just defend the provisions of the ACA that guarantee access to preventive care and limit profits of for-profit health insurers, but we continue to press for a full public option to decouple insurance from employment.

**QUESTION 2:**

What specific steps did you take in your previous positions to ensure proportional representation of traditionally underrepresented groups (women, People of Color (POC), LGBT+ individuals, individuals with disabilities) in your businesses/firms/administrations? What lessons would you bring with you to the House of Representatives to improve representation in your administration and the country more widely?

**INH RATING of this Response**

**0-1= Poor, 1-2=Good, 2-3=Excellent**

<b>Ideology</b>	<b>Knowledge of topic</b>	<b>Quality of Solutions offered</b>
<b>3.00</b>	<b>3.00</b>	<b>2.90</b>

**ANSWER: PAT DAVIS**

After the disastrous loss of the State House to Republicans in 2014, we knew we had to do something different to prepare for the 2016 elections. As head of Progress Now New Mexico, I joined with the state's labor council and Progressive Coalition to evaluate every competitive state house district based on voter demographics, participation, and primary issues. Then, we proactively sought out diverse voices, including teachers, police officers (like me), and communities of color and minorities who connected with the communities they serve. We provided training from the Wellstone Institute and built new community organizations to train canvassers in underrepresented communities to organize.

In 2016, we fielded the largest and most diverse field of Democratic candidates for State House ever, including educator Debbie Sariñana in the International District, healthcare policy leader Ane Romero in the North Valley, and fair wage and workplace organizer Angelica Rubio in Las Cruces. Even though they were outspent, those diverse new candidates led our takeback of the State House. That provides an important blueprint for ensuring that we build a pipeline of diverse, well-trained candidates for future offices.

On the Albuquerque City Council, I've deliberately worked to recruit and nominate diverse members of our community to board and commission seats in my district. 60% of my appointments or nominations have been people of color, women and millennials.

And when creating public projects like the building of our new \$10M International District library, I led a new process to appoint community leaders from the Asian Family

Center, Healthy Communities Coalition, African-American church leaders, and Hispanic neighborhood leaders.



And in the discretionary funding I have available as a city councilor, I've prioritized funds to build a pipeline for young leaders of color to take on these roles in the future. I proudly sponsored the Summer Leadership Academy led by the Black History Organizing Committee, Visionz Sankofa's immigrant and refugee job skills training programs, the International District Festival and sponsored the first-ever city grant to Albuquerque Pride to include and expand the LGBTQ leadership development programs in Albuquerque.

And in 2016, I proudly voted to expand Albuquerque's model Equal Pay for Women law which requires city contractors to evaluate their pay gaps and provide a plan to close them before being qualified for city contracts. That legislation, created by Councilor Gibson, is now a model for cities around the country and in Congress, I'd be honored to sponsor a national version for federal contractors.

In Congress, my priorities won't be any different than they have been as an organizer or City Councilor.

I'm proud to serve as one of our state's few openly-gay elected officials, and my election to Congress would be significant for LGBTQ history and for national equality. But I only get to serve in this capacity now because of the generations of advocates before me who fought and won battles of their own for voting rights, racial equality and LGBTQ rights. As a beneficiary of that legacy, I have an obligation to pass it on.

In Congress, I'll work to:

- Fully restore the Voting Rights Act to guarantee access to voting, without barrier, to every qualified voter
- Support universal voter registration
- Co-sponsor the Equality Act
- Co-sponsor legislation reversing the Trump administration's administrative decision to bar transgender service members from serving in the military Restore the NDAA LGBT provisions preventing federal contractors from firing employees based on sexual orientation
- Restore LGBTQ questions to the US Census. This provides an important measure for determining economic and social progress for every minority community.

And I'll continue my work, just as I did at Progress Now, to proudly campaign and support organizations and programs working to expand minority voices in Congress until Congress reflects the full diversity of our country.

### **QUESTION 3:**

What steps would you take to address prevention of and consequences for sexual misconduct in the workplace? Why do you think these specific efforts will be more successful than previous efforts at curbing rampant sexual misconduct?

### **INH RATING of this Response**

**0-1= Poor, 1-2=Good, 2-3=Excellent**

Ideology	Knowledge of topic	Quality of Solutions offered
2.71	2.62	2.76

**ANSWER: PAT DAVIS**

At the City Council, I voted to expand the city's ethics laws, including sexual harassment, to all city employees (including elected officials who had previously been exempt) and to publicly list those who had completed (and failed to complete) it.

Every member of Congress should be required to take similar training and Congress should lift the rule hiding legal settlements for workplace misconduct in a Congressional office from public disclosure.

For too long we've heard (mostly conservative) leaders say that we cannot legislate responsible workplace behavior, but we know better.

Congress can pass a national law, like Albuquerque's Equal Pay Law, requiring federal contractors to complete sexual harassment training for all employees and provide those employees with access to confidential reporting tools at the EEOC or local equivalents.

**QUESTION 4:**

The Department of Justice has undermined ADA protections for individuals with disabilities by scraping and rescinding key guidance documents on topics ranging from employment to service animals. What steps would you take as our House Representative to ensure that New Mexicans with disabilities continue to have equal access to employment as well as public services and spaces despite federal efforts to repeal, replace, and modify existing legal guidance on the ADA?

**INH RATING of this Response**

**0-1= Poor, 1-2=Good, 2-3=Excellent**

Ideology	Knowledge of topic	Quality of Solutions offered
2.67	2.67	2.43

**ANSWER: PAT DAVIS**

My partner, Christopher, teaches adults with disabilities at the Very Special Arts program at the North 4th Art Center. He helps serve more than 200 clients with varying disabilities requiring various accommodations. Through that work, I've come to meet amazing people who face not

only their own physical or developmental disabilities, but also bureaucratic barriers limiting their ability to thrive or access services.

Unfortunately, the ADA is a mostly unfunded mandate to states and cities, making it a popular target for attack.

To improve and clarify obligations under the ADA, Congress should pass an updated ADA guaranteeing basic protections which have been eroded by softer federal rules. Legislative, not administrative, rules create the certainty for protections communities need and clear legislative language dictates what rules must be followed. Otherwise, they can just wait out unpopular regulations until a new administration repeals or replaces it.

#### QUESTION 5:

Earlier this year President Trump tweeted "how can there be global warming when the northern states and the northeast has had a winter that is one of the coldest on record? All those countries that are spending billions to stop global warming are wasting money." What are your thoughts about this tweet? What policies would you propose to position NM as a leader in the fight to address the negative effects of climate change?

#### INH RATING of this Response

0-1= Poor, 1-2=Good, 2-3=Excellent

Ideology	Knowledge of topic	Quality of Solutions offered
2.95	3.00	2.95

#### ANSWER: PAT DAVIS

Our president is an idiot and a national embarrassment.

I was recently quoted in the *Albuquerque Journal* by saying, "At the end of the day, when there's a question about science, we need to listen to the scientists" (9/20/17).

Climate change is an undeniable scientific fact that, by definition, means that climate stability manifested in steady season changes has been replaced by wild fluctuations in weather. Small increases in global temperatures are compounded through weather systems and create more dangerous hurricanes, tornados and change events. And those require more federal dollars to mitigate disasters.

We all have an obligation to act and in my role as an elected official, I have been doing my part.

When President Trump pulled the US out of the Paris Climate Accords, I joined with Councilor Benton and community organizations including Environment NM, the Sierra Club, 350.org and the Union of Concerned Scientists, to write and pass new legislation requiring the City of

Albuquerque to increase our renewable energy use from 3% to 25% by 2025, helping meet our own Paris obligations.

But designing a plan to achieve that goal was harder.

So, for more than a year, I led a team of city engineers, renewable policy experts and solar experts to design a plan to implement it. In 2017, I passed new legislation divesting millions the city paid to PNM for coal-fired power and investing it in local solar companies who were given preferences for hiring local workers.

Today, the first companies are hiring students directly from CNM's solar system installer certification programs and putting them to work installing solar on 30+ city buildings.

Those students no longer have to leave New Mexico to find stable clean energy jobs and local companies have guaranteed work allowing them to invest in capital, facilities and training to grow our solar industry even faster.

For too long, we've heard politicians say that "one day" New Mexico will have a system to create a solar workforce and keep our children here to do the work. Thanks to my project, that day is here.

I couldn't have accomplished that work on my own. I come from a community organizer background and I believe the policy goal (how you get there) is as important as what we accomplish. That's why I started with solar companies, CNM, technical experts and community organizations so that we could ensure we were building public awareness and support for an important policy goal and building broad public support for climate action even climate deniers couldn't ignore.

At the end of the year, the project passed with unanimous bipartisan support and was signed by a Republican mayor. I'm proud to have led this project and found ways to win over even skeptical Republicans.

As a City Councilor, I have also:

- Co-sponsored new legislation to bring back Albuquerque's green building codes cancelled by Mayor Berry
- Introduced legislation with Commissioner Hart Stebbins to require the Water Authority to study the potential impacts of fracking on our aquifer
- Supported and passed a 100-year water plan for the Albuquerque Bernalillo County Water Authority, ensuring that we have a plan for water for another 100 years without adding new water rights (and requiring any potential new development to meet strict new conservation rules)

In Congress, I'll support:

- A draw down of subsidies for billion dollar fossil fuel producers, leveling the playing field for solar and renewable energy investments to expand on the grid
- New legislation to retrain oil and gas workers into programs like CNM's where they are guaranteed jobs as electricians, installers and solar sales teams upon graduation

- Expand the solar toolkit I announced in partnership with Sandia National Labs, CNM and Senator Heinrich to help smaller communities like Edgewood, Tijeras, Bernalillo and the pueblos follow our lead in divesting from PNM and reinvesting in solar without raising taxes on residents
- An end to new public lands oil and gas leases, returning our western public lands to fully protected wild places

That's climate leadership we need in New Mexico and in Congress.

#### QUESTION 6:

How will you protect public lands and national monuments for current and future generations of New Mexicans?

#### INH RATING of this Response

0-1= Poor, 1-2=Good, 2-3=Excellent

Ideology	Knowledge of topic	Quality of Solutions offered
2.90	2.70	2.55

#### ANSWER: PAT DAVIS

I'm not only an advocate for public lands, I'm a user of our public lands and, as a legislator, I've lived up to my commitment to protect these places and expand public space by cosponsoring legislation to expand Albuquerque's Public Lands Acquisition Trust fund and backing new legislation to create a new City-National Park Service partnership to manage the Petroglyphs National Monument and eliminate the backlog of park maintenance.

And in my role as a the head of Progress Now NM, I launched a series of television ads and public town halls to hold elected leaders accountable for their votes turning public lands and water over to private donors. When a conservative Texas donor purchased property in Northern New Mexico, he also asked Republican Leader Nate Gentry and Republicans to introduce legislation allowing him to fence off public streams adjacent to his land - turning public waterways and fishing sites into for-profit areas only accessible to those who by paid huge daily fees to the adjacent private landowner.

I created campaigns to showcase this special deal to turn our public lands to private profit centers, including television ads calling out Governor Martinez and Republican leaders for accepting thousands of dollars in donations after the vote.

In Congress, I'll continue to be an unapologetic defender of our public lands, which includes support for an end to federal oil and gas leases and opposing Trump's border wall, which cuts off important wildlife corridors for border species, including the Mexican grey wolf.

**QUESTION 7:**

Have you accepted campaign contributions from the following industries? If so why and are you willing to give them back and pledge not to accept additional contributions?

- A. Fossil fuel industry?
- B. The pharmaceutical industry?
- C. The NRA or gun lobby?
- D. The tobacco industry?

**INH RATING of this Response**

**0-1= Poor, 1-2=Good, 2-3=Excellent**

Ideology	Knowledge of topic	Quality of Solutions offered
2.95	2.95	3.00

**ANSWER: PAT DAVIS**

No, I haven't taken campaign contributions from any of the listed industries. I was proud to be the first-ever federal candidate from New Mexico to take the "No Fossil Fuel" pledge in this race for Congress (but, to be honest, as a leader on solar conversion in Albuquerque, oil and gas companies weren't lining up to help me anyway).

I proudly followed by taking the No Corporate PAC pledge and No NRA Money Pledge.

As a City Councilor, I ran on public financing because I believe corporations have enough politicians working for them and when money runs elections, politicians with limited time spend too much listening to those with money.

And my values didn't change when I ran for Congress. That's why I was proud to lead on taking those pledges and why I'm proud that, unlike some candidates in our race whose major contributors include pharmaceutical industries and lawyers/lobbyists for those industries, opensecrets.org ranked my top contributors as retirees, union workers and educators. And my average online contribution has always been under \$100.

In Congress, I'll support expanding public financing to more elections.

**QUESTION 8:**

What does "common sense gun control" mean to you? What measures would you take to improve gun safety?

**INH RATING of this Response**

**0-1= Poor, 1-2=Good, 2-3=Excellent**

Ideology	Knowledge of topic	Quality of Solutions offered
2.95	2.90	2.65

**ANSWER: PAT DAVIS**

Common sense gun laws are designed to prioritize the lives of a first-grader, Las Vegas concert goer, nightclub patron, or police officer, over anyone's right to own an assault weapon.

I'm proud to be the only candidate in this race to earn the coveted "Gun Sense" candidate rating from Moms Demand Action. And I'm endorsed by the Pride Fund to End Gun Violence, the national gun rights organization born out of the Orlando Pulse Nightclub shooting identifying candidates for Congress who can change the conversation on guns in Congress.

Leaders of both organizations cited by experience as a police officer and organizer for background checks and common sense gun legislation in the state legislature as qualities that will help me not just be another vote for gun laws, but a leader in the conversation.

As a young police officer, I survived a shooting with a wanted felon carrying an illegal gun, and as a City Councilor I renamed a children's park after Officer Daniel Webster who was gunned down by another felon who bought his gun in a parking lot through a loophole in the law because he couldn't pass a background check.

As a City Councilor, I'm one of the few legislators in the country who has passed gun laws that work.

**When I learned that there was no state or federal law making it illegal to threaten to shoot a school, I used my organizing experience to bring together educators and school resource officers and I wrote one. In 2017, APD used my law four times to investigate and identify people who sent Facebook and Snapchat pictures of guns on campus or threats to shoot up a local school.**

That is the same law the FBI says they needed to investigate the Parkland shooter's online threats reported to the FBI months before his shooting. But Congress, more worried about their NRA rating than their grandchildren in school, refused to pass laws like this.

Even though the NRA told me no law would stop a school shooting, mine has and I'm proud of that bill.

I've also helped to initiate other "common sense" gun programs that work:

- In 2013, as head of CrimeStoppers, I started Albuquerque's first gun buyback program, taking 300 unwanted guns off the streets
- I funded a new gun tip line to help APD identify persons using guns to commit crimes
- I funded and purchased new NIBENS tools to help APD crime lab track guns used in crimes and connect them to unsolved shootings and identify shooters

In Congress, my experience as a police officer, shooting survivor, and city councilor gives me a unique voice in the debate.

#### QUESTION 9:

After the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) scrapped net neutrality rules last year, states and cities across the U.S. have led efforts to restore net neutrality and sought to insulate their communities from the effects of the FCC's repeal. How would you fight to ensure equal access to content for New Mexicans? Are there lessons to be learned from previous efforts in New Mexico and in other U.S. states?

#### INH RATING of this Response

0-1= Poor, 1-2=Good, 2-3=Excellent

Ideology	Knowledge of topic	Quality of Solutions offered
2.90	2.95	2.75

#### ANSWER: PAT DAVIS

In 2017, the FCC overturned Obama-era rules requiring net neutrality. Congress can make net neutrality permanent by passing legislation establishing net neutrality to all internet providers and eliminate administrative discretion and changes every time an administration changes.

In Congress, I've committed to cosponsoring this legislation and I'll fight to join the House Science, Space & Technology Committee which oversees these issues. As we look forward to taking back the House of Representatives, it is important that House members responsible for overseeing issues of internet, social media, and technology have a firm understanding of it. As someone whose generation grew up with the internet, I'm anxious to lead the conversations to protect access to the internet for every user and protecting our data.

As we know, the challenges of net neutrality are intertwined not just in prioritizing content but also in issues that have allowed private providers to sell user data. In the era of fake news, it is imperative that internet users have equal access to information that allows them to check facts, share their ideas, and organize.

In Albuquerque, I look forward to using our coming franchise service contracting process for cable/internet services to include net neutrality requirements to Albuquerque households.

#### QUESTION 10:

Trump's "\$1.5 trillion infrastructure plan" is really \$200 billion in federal funding that leaves state and local governments to cover 80% of project costs? How do you envision paying for infrastructure projects in New Mexico?



**INH RATING of this Response**

0-1= Poor, 1-2=Good, 2-3=Excellent

Ideology	Knowledge of topic	Quality of Solutions offered
2.85	2.70	2.50

**ANSWER: PAT DAVIS**

As chair of the City's Finance & Government Operations Committee and member of the Water Authority Board, no Congressional candidate knows better than me how public infrastructure projects are designed, funded and executed.

With more than \$60 million in delayed bridge and road maintenance, and declining federal gas tax revenue (thanks to electric vehicles and more efficient vehicle fuel standards), we need new strategies to share the costs among users and invest in needed roads, water, sewer and connectivity (phone, internet) for rural areas, including tribal communities and land grants.

The Trump infrastructure scam is designed just like so many of their "great deals": a great deal for the private sector which uses public dollars to offset their risk and subsidize greater profits for private contractors.

The Trump scam proposes to flip the federal-local match from an average of 80-20% to 20-80%, guaranteeing that almost no municipalities can afford to finance road maintenance, water systems, bridges and airports. Or, those who do will have to severely cut local services providing basic public safety, community support and quality of life.

In the end, this is a scam to starve cities and local governments to make a profit for private industry.

Instead, we should invest in federal programs to raise the gas tax in order to support road maintenance, fully fund federal requests to support public transit, road projects and Internet connectivity so that cities can succeed.

**US House of Representatives, CD - 1 - Respondent - Paul Moya****QUESTION 1:**

The attack on the ACA fundamentally is an attack on the concept that adequate health care is a right and not a privilege and that the government has a significant role in ensuring that access.

What have you done and what will you do to ensure all New Mexicans have access to adequate health care?

### INH RATING of this Response

0-1= Poor, 1-2=Good, 2-3=Excellent

Ideology	Knowledge of topic	Quality of Solutions offered
2.81	2.52	2.33

### ANSWER: PAUL MOYA

I believe that the Affordable Care Act is the single most important piece of legislation passed in years and it was a critical first step to achieving universal healthcare in America. I have spent years fighting for healthcare as a basic human right and have worked to successfully reform large-scale organizations to do more to provide access to adequate healthcare for all of their employees.

In Congress, I will fight for collective bargaining to once and for all hold big pharmaceutical companies accountable and stop them from continuing to cripple the middle and working class in this country. I will also sponsor legislation to expand funding for mental healthcare, rehabilitation, and caregiver programs. I also firmly believe that we need to build upon the Affordable Care Act and to pay for this we must stand strong on the principles that the wealthiest Americans must pay their fair share of taxes. We can start this by limiting tax deductions that can be taken by the 1% and tax capital gains at the same rate as income from employment.

### QUESTION 2:

What specific steps did you take in your previous positions to ensure proportional representation of traditionally underrepresented groups (women, People of Color (POC), LGBT+ individuals, individuals with disabilities) in your businesses/firms/administrations? What lessons would you bring with you to the House of Representatives to improve representation in your administration and the country more widely?

### INH RATING of this Response

0-1= Poor, 1-2=Good, 2-3=Excellent

Ideology	Knowledge of topic	Quality of Solutions offered
2.52	2.48	2.14

**ANSWER: PAUL MOYA**

Currently I serve as the CEO of Millennial Labs -- a full-service management consulting firm centered around interpreting and acting on human behavior in the workplace, marketplace and voting booth. One of the biggest areas of growth for our company has been serving clients with significant challenges around retaining top-tier talent. While this is a challenge across companies of all sizes and in a variety of industries, we are able to bring data-centered approaches to help solve the retention issues for public and private sector clients alike. The main areas that we build our retention strategies from are centered around ending the gender pay gap, creating workplaces free of all types of bias and discrimination including gender, racial, sexual orientation, and other factors that impact marginalized communities. We also build systems that ensure a well-balanced and diverse workforce that views differences as strengths. Overall, this system has allowed us to change the culture and dynamics of some of the largest public sector and multi-national organizations in the world. Most importantly, I know that it is moving the needle to create a more socially and economically just world and that is my motivation to continue working each day.

**QUESTION 3:**

What steps would you take to address prevention of and consequences for sexual misconduct in the workplace? Why do you think these specific efforts will be more successful than previous efforts at curbing rampant sexual misconduct?

**INH RATING of this Response**

0-1= Poor, 1-2=Good, 2-3=Excellent

Ideology	Knowledge of topic	Quality of Solutions offered
2.67	2.43	2.19

**ANSWER: PAUL MOYA**

First, I believe that any entity that receives government funding should be mandated to provide a substantive policy handbook that outlines sexual harassment policies, general harassment policies, standard procedures regarding the process about how sexual harassment investigations are conducted within the organization and fair and equitable policies that prevents an employee in a supervisory role from dating a reporting employee. Second, I will sponsor and/or support legislation that requires all employees in supervisory or management positions to complete continuing education courses to ensure they are equipped to identify workplace conditions that make way for sexual misconduct, to take swift action and conduct thorough investigations, and to carry out any and all necessary actions to bring justice to the victims and hold predators accountable. Third, we must require all new employees to complete an onboarding process that outlines the standards and provides avenues to follow at the first

instance when misconduct occurs within the workplace. I am confident that these three steps will ensure that more effective policies are developed, that leaders are prepared to identify and eliminate sexual assault, and that incoming employees are trained and held accountable to the standards set forth by all government funded entities.

#### QUESTION 4:

The Department of Justice has undermined ADA protections for individuals with disabilities by scraping and rescinding key guidance documents on topics ranging from employment to service animals. What steps would you take as our House Representative to ensure that New Mexicans with disabilities continue to have equal access to employment as well as public services and spaces despite federal efforts to repeal, replace, and modify existing legal guidance on the ADA?

#### INH RATING of this Response

0-1= Poor, 1-2=Good, 2-3=Excellent

Ideology	Knowledge of topic	Quality of Solutions offered
2.76	2.71	2.62

#### ANSWER: PAUL MOYA

I would vocally oppose legislation such as H.R. 620, "ADA Education and Reform Act," and efforts recently taken by the DOJ and Attorney General Sessions to rescind guidance documents that provide clarity into the interpretations of federal law. Rescinding the guidance documents will create uncertainty, confusion, and misunderstanding that will negatively impact people with disabilities. As a House Representative, I would support legislation that proactively ensures equal access to individuals with disabilities. While H.R. 620 attempts to address litigation concerns with the ADA, it fails to actually address those concerns, which can only be done at the state level, and instead removes the impetus for businesses to proactively comply with the ADA and puts the burden on people with disabilities to identify a greater number of violations of the ADA. I would also support legislation that allows penalties and sanctions to be enforced when companies fail to comply with ADA and support occupational training programs for New Mexicans with disabilities to ensure they remain competitive in the workforce. We need to support companies who hire individuals with disabilities and also help make individuals with disabilities find quality jobs.

#### QUESTION 5:

Earlier this year President Trump tweeted "how can there be global warming when the northern states and the northeast has had a winter that is one of the coldest on record? All those

countries that are spending billions to stop global warming are wasting money." What are your thoughts about this tweet? What policies would you propose to position NM as a leader in the fight to address the negative effects of climate change?

### **INH RATING of this Response**

**0-1= Poor, 1-2=Good, 2-3=Excellent**

<b>Ideology</b>	<b>Knowledge of topic</b>	<b>Quality of Solutions offered</b>
<b>2.90</b>	<b>2.81</b>	<b>2.71</b>

### **ANSWER: PAUL MOYA**

I wholeheartedly disagree with President Trump's tweet, as do scientific studies. Recent findings have shown that abnormally warm Arctic temperatures make severe winters two to four times more likely in the Northeast. Therefore, colder than average winters are actually a sign of global warming, along with the potential for intense flooding and droughts. While President Trump's tweet on global warming is certainly disappointing to see from a president, it is indicative of (at least) two larger issues: first, a common narrative used by climate change skeptics to avoid taking action on global warming and second, the overall war on facts that is currently taking place across our country and within our government.

The first thing we can do the position New Mexico as a leader in the fight to address the negative effects of climate change is to make New Mexico a leader in renewable energy. New Mexico has been blessed with immense solar energy and wind energy resources and we should look to make New Mexico the national model of innovation in the renewable sector, and the prototype of states becoming 100% renewable. On a Federal level, we must utilize Federal funding opportunities such as the EPA's Local Climate and Energy Program and partner with the state government to make this a reality. I'm committed to funding innovation and public-private partnerships to turn New Mexico into the national model for sustainable energy. This is not only a moral imperative but it has the potential to create massive economic gains for our state and our nation by creating more good-paying jobs that pay living wages and that people can take pride in knowing that their work is creating a better world for all of us. We should ensure that the companies leading the way in renewable energy have appropriate Federal incentives to headquarter their business here. Finally, we should have manufacturing factories in the state to produce the supplies and parts needed.

While these strategies mitigate future damage to the environment, we must also become a leader in learning how to adapt to the effects of climate change that are already occurring. In the Southwest, we are seeing increased heat, drought, and insect outbreaks as well as declining water supplies and reduced agricultural yields. To be a leader in this area, we must have forward-thinking strategies on water conservation and usage.

**QUESTION 6:**

How will you protect public lands and national monuments for current and future generations of New Mexicans?

**INH RATING of this Response**

0-1= Poor, 1-2=Good, 2-3=Excellent

Ideology	Knowledge of topic	Quality of Solutions offered
2.50	2.40	2.10

**ANSWER: PAUL MOYA**

In order to protect public lands and national monuments for current and future generations of New Mexicans, I would support the House version of S.2354, the ANTIQUITIES Act of 2018 sponsored by Senator Udall. We must protect the original Antiquities Act of 1906, which has allowed the protection of the Grand Canyon and other national treasures. I would also oppose H.R. 3990, the National Monument Creation and Protection Act (CAP Act). Congress must maintain the power to reduce the size or protection of national monuments.

**QUESTION 7:**

Have you accepted campaign contributions from the following industries? If so why and are you willing to give them back and pledge not to accept additional contributions?

**ANSWER: PAUL MOYA**

- a. Fossil fuel industry? No
- b. The pharmaceutical industry? No
- c. The NRA or gun lobby? No
- d. The tobacco industry? No

**INH RATING of this Response**

0-1= Poor, 1-2=Good, 2-3=Excellent

Ideology	Knowledge of topic	Quality of Solutions offered
2.80	2.72	2.56

**QUESTION 8:**

What does “common sense gun control” mean to you? What measures would you take to improve gun safety?

**INH RATING of this Response**

0-1= Poor, 1-2=Good, 2-3=Excellent

Ideology	Knowledge of topic	Quality of Solutions offered
2.85	2.65	2.65

**ANSWER: PAUL MOYA**

Gun violence is an epidemic in our nation and I will work to immediately require mandatory 7-day waiting periods for background checks on all guns purchased — through public or private sale — in America. I will also fight for bans on bump stocks, high-capacity magazines, and all assault rifles. Within my first 100 days in Congress I will propose legislation barring people with a history of domestic abuse and those on any known terrorist or Do Not Fly list from buying any type of firearm and also requiring the legal age to buy any type of firearm to be raised to at least 21. We must also hold gun manufacturers accountable for all damages from gun violence and stand up against the NRA so that people can feel safe in this country.

**QUESTION 9:**

After the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) scrapped net neutrality rules last year, states and cities across the U.S. have led efforts to restore net neutrality and sought to insulate their communities from the effects of the FCC’s repeal. How would you fight to ensure equal access to content for New Mexicans? Are there lessons to be learned from previous efforts in New Mexico and in other U.S. states?

**INH RATING of this Response**

0-1= Poor, 1-2=Good, 2-3=Excellent

Ideology	Knowledge of topic	Quality of Solutions offered
2.65	2.53	2.40

**ANSWER: PAUL MOYA**

As a Congressman, I will sponsor legislation that mandates net neutrality nationwide (in line with the 2015 standards) and removes the decision making from the FCC. This would ensure equal access to content for all Americans. While there are lessons to be learned from previous efforts in New Mexico and in other U.S. states to restore net neutrality, the solution should ideally come down from the federal level to make compliance easier. In the absence of federal policy that allows equal access to the internet, states have taken action, which is encouraging. Washington was recently the first state to pass its own net neutrality law, joining states such as New York whose governor's have signed executive orders supporting net neutrality. New Mexico also introduced legislation, but it's failure was a reminder of the importance of having a Democratic governor leading these efforts.

#### **QUESTION 10:**

Trump's "\$1.5 trillion infrastructure plan" is really \$200 billion in federal funding that leaves state and local governments to cover 80% of project costs? How do you envision paying for infrastructure projects in New Mexico?

#### **INH RATING of this Response**

**0-1= Poor, 1-2=Good, 2-3=Excellent**

<b>Ideology</b>	<b>Knowledge of topic</b>	<b>Quality of Solutions offered</b>
<b>2.65</b>	<b>2.30</b>	<b>2.10</b>

#### **ANSWER: PAUL MOYA**

First, I believe that we must propose new legislation that requires President Trump to expand funding to alleviate the burden put on individual states within the current infrastructure plan. Just like the "Tax Plan" this is a complete scam and fails to adequately fund any type of construction or development to improve the safety and efficiency of our individual communities while also creating decent-paying jobs throughout our communities. Since the significant share of funding will likely fall on New Mexico, we must look at building our new schools, airports, water treatment facilities, and roads using traditional and non-traditional forms of debt. Right now this approach is especially favorable because of today's historically low interest rates with state and local debt being below pre-recession levels. While this investment will be a significant upfront expense, it has the potential to significantly improve our states economy over the long haul. In addition, more efficient infrastructure will boost productivity and improve long-term economic growth and wages for hardworking New Mexicans all across the state.



