

New Mexico Family Action Movement  
Candidate Questionnaire  
Purpose Statement

This questionnaire is designed to help voters better understand where candidates stand on key issues impacting New Mexico families. Responses will be shared publicly to inform and equip voters ahead of the primary election. Please limit your responses to 250 words or less.

Deadline for Submission: 05/01/2026

## PUBLIC SAFETY

1. What do you believe are the top three drivers of crime in New Mexico today, and how would you address them?

Our broken bail system, drug addiction, and violent repeat offenders. New Mexico ranks second in the nation for violent crime, at nearly double the national rate. The state also ranks first for property crime, with a rate 56% above the national average. I have seen the reality firsthand. Walking my dogs a few weeks ago, a man on a moped was shot just steps away from me. I was able to help the victim before police arrived. Thankfully he survived, but that incident reflects what too many New Mexico families face every day. There is some encouraging news. In the first half of 2025, violent crime fell 18% and property crime dropped 9% compared to the same period in 2024, proof that targeted enforcement works. But we must go further. As governor, I will reform the dangerous bail system so violent repeat offenders stay behind bars, fully support law enforcement, and connect public safety to better education and real economic opportunity. Safe communities are the foundation of everything else.

2. What specific policies would you support to address repeat offenders and violent Crime?

I will start by fixing the cashless bail rules and return authority to judges to keep habitual offenders detained and off the streets where they rob, steal and harm people hustling cash to fund their addictions. My administration's policies will emphasize tougher enforcement of criminal laws, lengthening sentences for violent crimes, and providing law enforcement agencies with the resources they need to protect communities.

## CYFD & CHILD WELLBEING

1. New Mexico has faced ongoing challenges within CYFD. What specific reforms would you prioritize to improve child safety and outcomes?

As a father this is personal. We must stop failing our most vulnerable kids. I strongly believe CYFD must remain under the governor's authority. I'll bring hands-on management, expand training pipelines, and ensure decisions prioritize child safety. CYFD must rebuild around transparency, qualified staff, stable leadership, and child well-being.

2. How can New Mexico better prevent child abuse and neglect before state intervention is necessary?

New Mexico must work with parents to improve our early identification of unsafe environments, bolster our risk assessment tools, invest in early intervention (family- and school-based) and improve mental health and addiction services to address issues before abuse and neglect starts.

## EDUCATION

1. New Mexico consistently ranks low in national education outcomes. What do you believe is the root cause, and how would you address it?

As Governor, I'll fix education for ALL New Mexicans. The root cause is a public school system that is more focused on spending instead of results. Only 43% of our third graders can read at grade level. Only 23% of fourth graders are proficient in math. That is a crisis, and it is shameful that politicians keep talking about it while nothing changes. I will prioritize literacy and math, expand charter and school-choice options, and hold schools accountable for student outcomes. For kids who can't read at grade level, we'll get them the support they deserve instead of passing them along unequipped.

2. What is your position on school choice options (charter, private, homeschool, ESA programs), and why?

I led the Public Charters Schools of New Mexico as Board Chairman for nearly 15 years and fully support expanding school choice and letting the money follow the child to the schooling option of the parent's choice. I know more competition in education will improve outcomes and raise expectations across the board.

## HEALTHCARE ACCESS

1. Many communities in New Mexico—especially rural areas—face limited access to healthcare. What solutions would you propose?

Too many New Mexicans cannot get basic care close to home. Twenty six of New Mexico's 33 counties are rural, with residents often traveling 50 to 100 miles for basic health services. Eight of 27 rural hospitals are at risk of closure. A December 2025 survey found that 65% of New Mexico doctors are considering leaving the state, driven largely by the state's medical malpractice system, which is among the highest payout rate per capita in the country and drives insurance premiums to above the regional average. As governor, I will promote competition among providers, cut unnecessary regulations, and support the malpractice reform that passed in 2026 as a model for broader change. I will also work to rebuild our mental health and substance abuse treatment capabilities.

2. How can the state address provider shortages while maintaining quality of care?

I will expand access to quality care in rural and underserved communities by incentivizing good doctors and nurses to serve where they are needed most.

## ENERGY PRODUCTION

1. New Mexico's economy relies heavily on oil and gas revenue. How should the state balance energy production with environmental concerns?

Our oil and gas industry does not just support our economy, it is our economy. In Fiscal Year 2025, the industry generated \$13 billion dollars for state and local governments, nearly half of the state's General Fund, funding \$2.4 billion dollars in education spending alone. New Mexico has become the nation's second largest oil producer, with production surpassing 2 million barrels per day in 2024, a remarkable achievement that funds our schools, our roads, and our communities. Instead of supporting this vital sector, too many politicians want to regulate it out of existence. I will not let that happen. As governor, I will protect our energy industry by providing regulatory certainty and keeping New Mexico competitive so companies continue to invest and hire locally. We can do that while protecting our environment and holding the rare bad actors accountable.

2. How would your energy policies impact jobs, state revenue, and cost of living for New Mexicans?

When oil and gas succeed, New Mexico wins. When the industry is allowed to thrive, that means more and higher paying jobs, more revenue for the state, and lower energy costs for New Mexico families.

## AFFORDABILITY & COST OF LIVING

1. What do you see as the biggest contributors to the rising cost of living in New Mexico?

The rising cost of living is partially driven by national and global economic forces that our state government doesn't control. But we should address what we do have control over by cutting taxes so families keep more of what they make and reducing the burdensome state regulations that drive up the cost of everything, particularly housing.

2. How should the state approach taxation and spending to reduce financial pressure on families?

Every New Mexican deserves to keep more of what they earn. Our high gross receipts tax makes New Mexico one of the most expensive states for small businesses to operate in, and our personal income taxes are among the highest in the region, driving people and businesses to Texas, Arizona, and Colorado. If we want to attract new businesses to our state and drive down costs for families, we must fix our tax structure. New Mexico's Gross Receipts Tax punishes businesses for doing business here. As governor, I'll phase out business-to-business GRT over five years, eliminating the hidden tax that makes New Mexico uncompetitive. We have the financial resources to protect municipalities during the transition instead of letting Santa Fe hoard it while small businesses struggle. No revenue cliff for cities. No new taxes. Just

smarter use of the resources New Mexicans already own. I will also reduce personal income taxes so hardworking families keep more of what they earn. Affordability should not be a dream in New Mexico. It should be a reality.

## PARENTAL RIGHTS

1. What rights do you believe parents should have in directing their child's education, healthcare, and upbringing?

Parents should have full control of their children's education, healthcare and upbringing. I led the Public Charter Schools of New Mexico as Board Chairman for nearly 15 years and believe deeply in parental choice. My administration will protect parental rights, expand school choice and push back against any effort — by government or schools — to make decisions for families that belong to parents.

2. In what situations, if any, should schools or healthcare providers make major decisions affecting a child without parental notification or consent?

Only in the very rare situation of providing life-saving care to a child who needs it immediately.

## LIFE (SANCTITY OF LIFE)

1. What is your position on abortion policy in New Mexico?

I am pro-life and believe in the sanctity of life. As Governor I'll work to build a broader coalition, focusing first and foremost on the limits to abortion where we already have broad common sense consensus. For example, New Mexico allows late term abortion with almost no restrictions — making us an extreme outlier compared to other states.

2. What role should the state play in regulating or funding abortion services?

Taxpayer dollars should not be used to fund these services. Beyond that, the state should build durable support services and networks that promote women's health, life and childbirth. New Mexico currently has no meaningful restrictions — no gestational limit and no parental notification for minors. We face obstacles, especially with the Legislature. But this is an issue that I'll govern on with my head - and my heart.

## CLOSING SECTION

1. Why are you running for this office?

I was born and raised here. I've been to every corner of this state and I've listened to what people are actually saying: they're tired of being failed by our government. On taxes, education, public safety, and child welfare, the problems aren't a mystery, they're just unsolved — because nobody has had the will and the management experience to fix them. As a father, a businessman, and a lifelong New Mexican, I know what's at stake. I'm running because I have the experience, the determination, and the plan to ignite New Mexico and make it a state where our families can thrive.

## 2. What sets you apart from other candidates in this race?

I'm the best candidate to win in November because I've spent my career solving hard problems, not running from them. I have built my companies right here in New Mexico, and have managed high-stakes assignments across New Mexico and around the world. I know what results look like, and I know what excuses look like. New Mexico has had enough excuses. Voters want someone who is independent, has a track record of getting things done, can work with anyone and who will tell the truth. That's what I'll deliver on day one.