

VOTE 2020

Primary election Tuesday, June 2



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF SANTA FE COUNTY AND THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF NEW MEXICO

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

As a nonpartisan organization, the League does not support, oppose or make recommendations regarding any political party or candidate.

Essential dates

All are subject to change or revision based on the effects of the pandemic. Access to the County Clerk's Office is by appointment only, but the office can be reached at 505-986-6289.

Tuesday, May 5: Voter registration closes. Applications must be received by 5 pm at the Santa Fe County Clerk's office in the County Municipal Building at 100 Catron Street or online through the NM Secretary of State Portal (www.NMVote.org) by 11:59 p.m.

Tuesday, May 5-Saturday, May 30: Same day voter registration begins and must be done in person at the Santa Fe County Clerk's office during regular hours. No party affiliation changes are allowed in this period during a Primary Election for existing registered voters.

Tuesday, May 5: Absentee Voting by mail begins. All voters registered with a major political party will receive an absentee ballot application in the mail this year, or, preferably, you can go to www.nmvote.org now to request an absentee ballot. Absentee ballots will be mailed out beginning on May 5. Fill them out and return them right away. The last day to request an absentee ballot is Friday, May 29.

Tuesday, May 5-Saturday, May 30: Absentee-In Person Voting (also Early Voting) is available at the County Clerk's office, 100 Catron Street during regular days and hours of business (Monday through Friday 8 a.m.-5 p.m.) The office is closed Monday, May 25, 2020, in observance of Memorial Day.

The County Clerk's office will be open for Voting on Saturday, May 30, only, but not on the other Saturdays of early voting.

Saturday, May 16-Saturday May 30: Alternate Sites Early Voting is available at the following Early Vote Centers. Hours of voting are from noon until 8

p.m. Tuesday through Friday and from 10 a.m. until 6 p.m. on Saturdays.

Early Vote Centers are located at:

• **Abedon Lopez Community Center - 155A Camino De Quintana, Santa Cruz**

• **Christian Life Church - 121 Siringo Road, Santa Fe**

• **NEW: Town of Edgewood Administrative Office - 171A State Road 344, Edgewood**

• **Max Coll Corridor Community Center (new facility) - 16 Avenida Torreon, Eldorado**

• **Pojoaque County Satellite Office - 5 W. Gutierrez - Suite 9, Pojoaque Pueblo Plaza**

• **Santa Fe County Fair Building - 3229 Rodeo Road, Santa Fe**

• **NEW: Southside Branch Library - 6599 Jaguar Drive, Santa Fe**

These locations may change due to limitations caused by the pandemic. Final information on Vote Centers will be posted when available.

Monday, June 1: Early Voting is CLOSED

Tuesday, June 2: Primary Election. Vote Centers are open 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

All Absentee ballots are physically due back to the County Clerk's Office no later than 7 p.m. on Tuesday, June 2.

Voting information

You must be registered with a major political party by May 5 (May 30 if using same-day, in-person registration — no party changes) in order to vote in this election. If you have moved or changed your address or your party affiliation, you should re-register to

vote. Application may be made in person, if possible, at the County Clerk's Office, by mail, or online.

First-Time Registrants: If you are registering for the first time in New Mexico, and you submit the registration form by mail, then you must submit with the form a copy of (1) a current and valid photo identification; or (2) a current utility bill, bank statement, government check, paycheck, student identification card or other government document, including identification issued by an Indian nation, tribe or pueblo that shows your name and current address. If you do not submit one of these forms of identification with your mailed-in, first time registration, then you will be required to present one of the forms of identification when voting in person or absentee. No identification is required if a voter is merely changing his registration (name, address and/or party affiliation) within the state of New Mexico.

The online portal (www.NMVote.org) is only available to those individuals that have been issued a New Mexico Driver's License or Identification Card.

When voting at the Voting Center, you will be asked for your name, address as registered, and year of birth. If you cannot provide this information orally, or if you registered by mail or online, you will be asked for one of the above forms of identification. With the exceptions noted above, no physical voter identification is required at the polling place.

Since electioneering within 100 feet of polling places is prohibited, and since displaying buttons, T-shirts, hats, or other such items is considered electioneering, voters are reminded not to display these items when voting at any Early Voting site or Vote Center.

Voter information online

The SFC LWV Voter Guide 2020 is available through www.lwvsc.org. You can also visit the website www.lwvsc.org.

Vote411.org for an interactive look at your ballot and all the candidates.

Local voting information and sample ballots are available on the Santa Fe County Clerk's website at www.santafecountynm.gov/clerk.

Candidate responses to questions from the League of Women Voters

The League of Women Voters of New Mexico and the League of Women Voters of Santa Fe County sent questionnaires to all candidates for the 2020 Primary Election. The names and parties of all candidates who will appear on the ballot are listed in the guide in alphabetical order.

Because of space restrictions, the League advised the candidates that the length of the responses would be limited. The responses of candidates are printed exactly as received by the League other than possibly being truncated. We have in no way edited for meaning, grammar, punctuation or spelling. The League assumes no responsibility for the content of any candidate's reply.

With thanks

We would like to thank the League of Women Voters of New Mexico Voter Guide editor Diane Goldfarb. Thank you also to the League of Women Voters of the United States. The Santa Fe County Clerk's office and the Secretary of State's office provided necessary and helpful information.

We also thank the *Santa Fe New Mexican* for printing and distributing the Voter Guide.

UNITED STATES PRESIDENT

The President of the United States is the head of state and head of government of the United States of America. The president directs the executive branch of the federal government and is the commander-in-chief of the United States Armed Forces.

Joseph R. Biden (Democrat)

Bernie Sanders (Democrat)

Daniel Behrman (Libertarian)

Jo Jorgensen (Libertarian)

James Ogle (Libertarian)

Donald J. Trump (Republican)

Tulsi Gabbard (Democrat)

Elizabeth Warren (Democrat)

Lincoln Chafee (Libertarian)

Adam Kokesh (Libertarian)

Sam Robb (Libertarian)

Deval Patrick (Democrat)

Andrew Yang (Democrat)

Jacob Hornberger (Libertarian)

John Monds (Libertarian)

Arvin Vohra (Libertarian)

UNITED STATES SENATE

Candidates must be at least 30 years old, a citizen of the United States at least 9 years, and a resident of the state from which elected. The United States Senate has 100 members. Two United States Senators are elected to six-year staggered terms by the entire state. One New Mexico Senate seat is up for election this year.

The League asked:

1. What measures do you support to protect the environment and to mitigate the effects of climate change?

2. What actions will you support to reform our immigration system?

3. What actions do you advocate to improve the availability, accessibility and quality of health care?

4. What should be the scope of work for the national laboratories in New Mexico?

Ben R. Lujan (Democrat)

We cannot wait another generation to act on climate change. In Congress, I introduced the Clean Energy Standard Act to transition electrical utilities to 100% clean energy in the 2050s and wrote the IMPACT For Energy Act to expand investments in organizations working to protect our public lands and strengthen regulations to protect our air and water. By making smart investments in clean energy now, we can create good-paying jobs and secure the needed changes to protect our environment.

Our immigration system is fundamentally broken. Congress needs to pass comprehensive immigration reform — one that includes a pathway to citizenship — protect the DREAMers, and bring humanity back to our immigration policies. We must take immediate action to ensure that the rights of migrants and refugees are protected by ending the family separation and the Remain in Mexico policies implemented by the Trump administration.

I believe that health care is a human right and have fought to expand health care throughout my career. I am the author of the State Public Option Act, which allows people to buy into their state's Medicaid programs. In Congress, I voted for legislation to drive down prescription drug prices and end surprise medical billing, all while fighting for resources to improve the quality and accessibility of health care for rural New Mexicans.

The groundbreaking work done at New Mexico's National Labs drives innovation and advancement. I support continuing the current missions at our National Labs, as well as adding new missions such as expanding research into renewable energy and energy storage. I will also continue to fight for environmental cleanup and safety funding in the U.S. Senate to ensure the labs are not only economic drivers for New Mexico, but can uphold their commitments to be good community members.

Bob Walsh (Libertarian)

Free trade. Restrain the EPA. No climate hysteria. Free trade creates jobs here and in poor countries. With prosperity, more people can access clean water. Dense American cities create jobs, but cause pollution. Let local people, not DC bureaucrats, strike a balance between air quality and jobs. Warming, if real, is bad for Neanderthals, mammoths, polar bears, and COVID-19, but good for dogs, cats, and people.

Open borders create American job opportunities. Gradually loosen restrictions on immigration. Eliminate special quotas for favored nations. Cities with the most immigrants have thrived economically: New York, Boston, Philadelphia, San Francisco before the Chinese Exclusion Act.

Deregulate health care to create jobs and save lives. CDC and FDA delays killed many Americans. In this crisis, the People took responsibility to slow the spread and reduce the peak load on hospitals. Health professionals bravely treated everyone, regardless of insurance. The People led, Governors followed, the Fed obstructed.

Laboratory people served the country during the WWII and Cold War crises. Los Alamos became the wealthiest county. Now limit work to: * cleanup, * proliferation studies, and * R&D that requires lab facilities. American nuclear weapons remain a deterrent without major investment.

Gavin S. Clarkson (Republican)

NO RESPONSE RECEIVED

NO RESPONSE RECEIVED

NO RESPONSE RECEIVED

NO RESPONSE RECEIVED

Elisa Maria Martinez (Republican)

I believe humans have a moral obligation to be good stewards of our land and our natural resources. In the past few decades, we have made considerable progress toward improving our air and water, and that progress needs to continue. Environmental problems are best resolved by providing incentives for the advancement and the development of technologies that improve our environmental health, not through government regulations that suppress our economy, increase our tax burden and eliminate jobs.

Our broken immigration system must be reformed in a manner that upholds the rule of law, protects the American worker and ensures our national security. First, we must secure our southern border, build the wall and enforce existing immigration laws. Part of immigration reform should involve a merit-based system, similar to Canada's, in order to protect working families and overwhelmed social services like Medicaid.

I believe it is important we encourage innovation and promote primary/preventative care to decrease the need for more expensive services. We need to work with healthcare providers to lower administrative costs and improve the delivery of care. We must increase insurance coverage options for our families to choose from, rather than a one-size-fits-all government-required coverage model that results in higher premiums.

For over 70 years, New Mexico's national laboratories have been at the forefront of national security science, and that general scope of work must continue in order to ensure the safety of all Americans. The world is a considerably safer place thanks to the discovery, innovation and solutions to complex national security threats that have resulted from the work conducted at these laboratories.

Mark V. Ronchetti (Republican)

I strongly oppose the Green New Deal. While climate change can be addressed, I disagree with those who believe that dismantling our economy is the answer. The so-called "Green New Deal" would put the US economy at a disadvantage globally, while the world's largest polluters — India & China — sit idly by. The approach of proponents of the Green New Deal simply won't work. I support an innovative approach relying on natural gas, carbon capture & emerging technologies to address climate change.

I oppose amnesty & support President Trump's efforts to secure the border with physical barriers, technology & an increase in border patrol agents. Illegal drugs pouring over our border is hurting everyone & this drug trade fuels much of our crime. I oppose sanctuary city laws & believe we must close the asylum-loophole that's creating a border crisis where migrants claim asylum when they do not qualify. We need clear immigration laws where those seeking the American dream can do so lawfully.

Increasing and improving access to healthcare is possible by enacting policies that lower costs while protecting quality and choice. I oppose government-run Medicare for All. I support protecting coverage for those who have pre-existing conditions. In a state like New Mexico, wider availability of telemedicine is critical to accomplishing this goal. Every American should be able to pick the healthcare plan that they want, not one the government picks for them.

I support a strong national defense and understand the important role our labs and bases play in New Mexico. I believe New Mexico is and should be at the forefront of critical research that helps protect our society and provides technological innovations for all Americans to enjoy. Additionally, I will fight for funding to make sure our Labs benefit from Space Force investment in this state. Our laboratories are an essential part of our New Mexican economy and way of life.

U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, DISTRICT 3

Candidates must be at least 25 years old, a United States citizen for at least 7 years, and a resident of New Mexico. The United States House of Representatives has 435 members of which New Mexico is entitled to three. They serve two-year terms. District 3 includes Los Alamos, Santa Fe and most of the northern part of the state.

The League asked:	1. What measures do you support to protect the environment and to mitigate the effects of climate change?	2. What actions will you support to reform our immigration system?	3. What actions do you advocate to improve the availability, accessibility and quality of health care?	4. What should be the scope of work for the national laboratories in New Mexico?
John Blair (Democrat)	We must pass laws that transform our energy, infrastructure, agriculture and industrial system, promote smart investments and create good jobs. That starts with passing the Green New Deal. We must incentivize clean energy the same way we've incentivized fossil fuels and transition to 100% clean energy to keep our communities pollution free. I support achieving net zero greenhouse gas emissions and oppose efforts to undermine the Clean Air Act & EPA's authority to cut carbon/other pollution.	I support real comprehensive immigration reform that protects our communities while allowing asylum for families/children who need it. We must protect DREAMers & the DAPA program, and provide a pathway to citizenship for DREAMers and any child brought to the US who claims this country as their home going forward. Washington must address the ongoing crisis at our border, but building a border wall using funds diverted from essential military programs is not the answer.	Healthcare is a universal right. Republicans and special interest groups are still trying to repeal the Affordable Care Act, which threatens coverage for those with preexisting conditions and could throw our insurance markets into chaos. I'll be a vigilant defender of the ACA and support legislation that gives states the resources needed to implement it successfully. I'll support efforts to lower the cost of prescription drugs and ensure our seniors have access to the care and support they need.	The national laboratories and their thousands of employees play a key role in our community, our state's economy, and our nation's national security. I will always support funding for the national labs and ensure the labs have funding to carry out their scientific and economic development efforts. We must continue to diversify the scope beyond the necessary national security work to include renewable and clean energy technologies, bioscience and other emerging fields of the 21st century.
Teresa Leger Fernandez (Democrat)	In NM, we know how important the land is to who we are as a people. We must rejoin the Paris Agreement, invest in renewable energy resources like wind and solar, utilize regenerative agriculture and pass clean energy tax incentives. Our transition away from fossil fuels must include economic assistance to places like NM that have borne the brunt of our fossil fuel consumption. I support the Green New Deal and am proud to be endorsed by the Sierra Club as the environmental champion in this race.	We must honestly, compassionately apply our asylum laws to those seeking refuge from persecution. Our abuse of families, children and refugees at our border does not reflect the values and humanity we believe in. I strongly support comprehensive immigration reform that would provide a path to citizenship for undocumented immigrants, Dreamers included. Immigrants are an essential part of our economy. I helped start an immigration clinic and know the importance of this community to our country.	The Medicare for All principles I support would ensure quality, affordable access to healthcare for all: eliminating bankrupting co-pays and deductibles and no discrimination because of pre-existing conditions. We must bring down the cost of prescription drugs through negotiation, patent reform and increased US manufacturing. I helped build rural health clinics and know we must fund our rural clinics and pay our rural doctors, nurses and health workers more.	LANL and Sandia play a crucial role for our national security and the economy of our state. Climate change is a national security threat, and we should marshal our national scientific labs to tackle this crisis. They should become hubs of scientific advancement and innovation on our pressing needs like the pandemic. We must have greater technology transfer — new businesses — from the science of the labs. We must also ensure environmental protections and clean up of legacy waste from their work.
Laura M. Montoya (Democrat)	I support recycling and teaching the importance of protecting our land, water and air in our schools and daily lives. I believe the Environment Protection Agency should have stronger regulatory standards and accountability. I support the identification and clean up of per and polyfluoroalkyl (PFAS) substances in our drinking water. I support encouraging requests for proposals to require or give added points for environmentally friendly projects. I support wind and solar expansion.	America is built on the backbone of immigrant families, fleeing oppression and seeking opportunities to make a better life for their children. Federal laws should not only maintain legal immigration levels, but support and provide a legal path for immigrants who wish to come to the United States and allow them to contribute their expertise and skill to our economy in order to maintain an adequate workforce. I support expansion of the DREAM Act and will fight for Veterans who have been deported.	I advocated for the repeal of the 40% excise tax on employer sponsored health care also known as the "Middle Class Health Care Benefits Tax Repeal of 2019" (HR 748) in the Affordable Care Act. I support health care plans that allow for pre-existing conditions and have a rural component. Copayments, deductibles and prescription drug costs should be affordable and efficient. People should not live in fear of having to see a doctor or pay for their medicine or seeing a doctor.	I understand that the mission is to solve national security challenges through scientific excellence. The scope of work should be inclusive of not only stock pile stewardship and research and development conducted to enhance national defense and global security but it should also ensure research for national healthcare cures and production of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE). There should be independent testing for protection of our land and water, especially as it relates to PIT production.
Valerie E. Plame (Democrat)	I spent my career in the CIA aggressively combating the existential threat of nuclear weapons; we must address the climate crisis in the same manner. Locally, nationally, and globally, protection of our air, land, and water must be of paramount importance. The Green New Deal is our best hope for progress both economically and environmentally, which includes protecting our national forests and cultural sites, by creating green jobs, science-based education, and phasing out dirty energy.	We need a path to citizenship that protects Dreamers and commits to basic human rights and protections for those fleeing disasters and violence in their home countries. This can be done by ending travel bans, protecting sanctuary cities, making sure our legal system has the necessary resources to process asylum cases and ends discriminatory practices like detention and aggressive I.C.E. enforcement tactics. Our country's strength lies in our diversity and in compassionate solutions.	It's immoral that in a nation as prosperous as ours, we pay more for healthcare than any other with worse outcomes. I support legislation that makes affordable, accessible healthcare a reality for all Americans. I support Medicare for All that includes Native Health Services and Veterans. With half of all babies in New Mexico born into poverty, I am deeply committed to expanding care for mothers and infants. I will work with state legislators to expand care to rural areas.	The National Labs and their employees are a valuable part of our community and economy. We must protect these jobs and the labs' mission which should include pushing the envelope of innovation and progress, such as partnerships with technology startups and private enterprises, that will grow the local economy. With some of the world's best minds in our labs, New Mexico can be the global leader in green energy tech and nuclear waste cleanup as we move past nuclear proliferation.
Joseph L. Sanchez (Democrat)	I support rolling out renewables and other technologies to mitigate the effects of climate change in a realistic achievable manner. As a former utility CEO, and electrical engineer, no candidate would have the ability of rolling out energy policy in a realistic manner like I would. I understand how technologies work, and how utility rates work. As a state representative, I supported and sponsored legislation. This past year I passed HM9, which called on our state to invest more in renewables	We need to make a major expansion of the worker visa program. We have many undocumented workers in this country who are working jobs that we need and that our country cannot be successful without. By expanding the worker visa program, this would give those workers the opportunity and time to apply for citizenship if that is what they are interested in. We also need to ensure that the citizenship process is fair to everyone who applies.	We need to ensure that affordable healthcare becomes an option for those who do not have it. We need to ensure that protections remain in place for those with pre-existing conditions. As a state representative, I supported legislation that included these protections and others. We need to ensure that prescription drug prices are affordable. No one should have to choose between feeding their families and buying medicine they need.	Our Laboratories exist to enhance our nation's national security, science, energy, and environmental management. Los Alamos National Laboratory for example, works on national security science, but they also perform research on things like cancer, renewable technologies, and many other things. They also produce medical isotopes used to treat people with cancer throughout the country. That is the present scope and I support LANL and Sandia National Laboratory 100 percent
Marco Peter Serna (Democrat)	Climate change represents a credible threat to our future, but I can't support the Green New Deal as written. Its ten year mobilization plan would devastate NM's economy without a responsible approach to diversification and protecting working class families. The state legislature passed the NM "Mini Green New Deal," which outlines a responsible plan to usher in carbon neutral energy to our state by 2045. Before I support any proposal, it must protect the best interests of working class families.	The history of immigration in the U.S. is checkered with xenophobia and the fear of the unknown, but immigration is also the bedrock of our culture and economy. We must come together and reform our laws to prioritize human rights. We can all agree that DREAMERS and people with Temporary Protected Status must have a pathway to citizenship. We should also raise the cap on refugee admissions from Trump's low of 18,000 to the Obama era cap of 110,000. Above all, family unity must be maintained.	I believe that healthcare is a right, not a privilege. Tremendous progress has been made since the passage of the ACA, but that was only a first step. While Medicare-for-All is a catchy concept, it's not a realistic approach to expanding healthcare. The \$30 trillion price tag over ten years is a step too far. We must insure everyone responsibly, lower the price of prescription drugs, ensure rural communities have equitable access and ensure those with pre-existing conditions are ALWAYS covered.	As one of the nation's leading research facilities, Los Alamos National Laboratory is key to our continued advancements in technology and to our national security. As your Congressman, I pledge to expand LANL, one of the state's largest job creators, and expand its program to assist small businesses.
Kyle J. Tisdell (Democrat)	As a public interest environmental attorney, I have dedicated my career to fighting for people and communities living in the shadow of fossil fuel exploitation. We must align our laws and policies with the science and timeline of the climate crisis, which means a managed decline of the fossil fuel industry. This will require holding industry accountable for a legacy of exploitation, ensuring a just transition for communities and states, and supporting the transition to a clean energy economy.	The UN predicts as many as 700 million climate refugees by mid-century. Such migration will occur both outside and within our borders. We must develop a comprehensive plan that deals with the realities of this growing international crisis. We should pass comprehensive immigration reform, including a pathway to citizenship, as well as immediately end family separations, the inhumane detention of asylum seekers, and dismantle unjust deportation.	Healthcare should be a right, not a privilege. I believe in Medicare For All and providing coverage regardless of income or employment. Particularly in places like New Mexico, we must also work to ensure access to healthcare. We should apply antitrust protections to fight hospital mergers that raise costs, increase Medicare reimbursements for rural hospitals and healthcare facilities, and incentivize doctors and healthcare workers who provide services in rural communities.	Our national laboratories have a critical role as drivers of research and innovation and should help lead the transition to a clean energy economy, accelerating decarbonization and diversifying our economy. We should expand existing programs for renewable energy and biofuels development, funding for which was slashed under the Bush administration. We should also expand programs for cleanup or radioactive waste, and I oppose pit production and the further proliferation of nuclear weapons.
Karen Evette Bedonie (Republican)	NO RESPONSE RECEIVED	NO RESPONSE RECEIVED	NO RESPONSE RECEIVED	NO RESPONSE RECEIVED
Alexis M. Johnson (Republican)	As a graduate of environmental engineering from the 8th best engineering school in the U.S., NM Tech, and utilizing my background in the energy sector, I look forward to providing New Mexicans the candidacy that will bring jobs to New Mexicans. I promote our oil and gas industry and will utilize my engineering and negotiation skills to efficiently and safely advocate for utilizing resources in New Mexico for the betterment of New Mexican lives.	I support the legal entry into the United States by those from other countries who follow the legal process that our country has set in place to prevent terrorism, drug cartel activity, exploitation of the poor, and the spread of communicable diseases into our community. I advocate working with other countries' governments to promote their own economic stability and job opportunity for their citizens.	I support accountability and excellence in our VA healthcare system for our armed services veterans who have risked their lives fighting for our autonomy and American principles. In addition, the access to tele-healthcare is an area where we can utilize to provide quality care without transmitting contagious diseases such as in this pandemic, especially in the rural areas in NM. I support free market initiatives for healthcare, patient-centric care, and coverage for pre-existing conditions.	The scope of the NM national laboratories should be that of securing our national defense and conducting scientific inquiry into the fields of world renown subject matter in opening areas of technological advancement for humankind. As an engineer, I support Los Alamos National Laboratory as a premier entity that has promoted and maintained the American way of life for freedom, prosperity, and as the leader of nations in scientific discovery and innovation.
Harry B. Montoya (Republican)	I would support bipartisan legislation such as S. 2657, the American Energy Innovation Act. It has been almost twelve years since energy policies have been updated, and that is an important first step towards making energy cleaner. Without costly mandates or tax increases, this bill shows it is possible to develop low and zero-emissions energy options that will result in cleaner air, water, and mitigate the effects of climate change.	At the risk of stating the obvious, immigration is deeply emotional for all sides, and I'm saddened by the way in which this issue has so divided our community for years. I have listened to many people on both sides of the immigration debate, and it's clear that there are no easy answers or quick fixes. We need to uphold the law and at the same time, our current laws make it nearly impossible for many law-abiding, honest people to legally enter the US.	We all want health care that is available, accessible, and of the highest quality, while also being affordable. The United States Constitution and Supreme Court interpretations do not suggest a constitutional right to health care for those who cannot afford it. However, if the majority in New Mexico think health care for all is worth higher taxes, among other potential unintended consequences, then the state government can act. I will represent the district as a whole, not just the Republicans.	Laboratories in NM have a vital mission and role in the security and protection of the USA. They should continue with their current scope of work and seek to enhance economic development opportunities here in NM by encouraging entrepreneurial ventures through the laboratories. This needs to be done in accordance with the guidelines of being safe and secure, when conducting their work. The laboratories have been a source of economic development for this Congressional District and many families.
Angela Gale Morales (write-in) (Republican)	NO RESPONSE RECEIVED	NO RESPONSE RECEIVED	NO RESPONSE RECEIVED	NO RESPONSE RECEIVED

NEW MEXICO STATE SENATE, DISTRICT 6

There are 42 members in the New Mexico Senate. All seats will be filled in the 2020 General Election. Senators are elected for four-year terms. Santa Fe County includes all or part of six Senate districts: 5, 6, 19, 24, 25, and 39. In addition to other duties prescribed by law, senators enact "reasonable and appropriate laws," represent the constituents of their district, and serve on standing or interim committees. The Legislature meets each year beginning in January. In odd-numbered years, it meets for 60 days; in even-numbered years, it meets for 30 days. The governor may call special sessions. Candidates must be at least 25 years old and must be a resident of the district from which elected. They serve a four-year term. Senators do not receive a salary, but they do receive a preset per diem.

The League asked:	1. How can New Mexico diversify its economy to reduce reliance on income from the oil and gas industry?	2. How should New Mexico reform its tax system?	3. What measures would you support to make the redistricting process fairer and more transparent?	4. What is your position regarding reproductive rights?
Roberto 'Bobby' Gonzales (Democrat)	In order to relieve some of the dependence on oil and gas the state of NM needs to offer more support for small businesses, training of the work force that would attract companies to our state. The government needs to support infrastructure by having good roads, internet, housing, education	A study by the NM Legislative Council was recently completed that reviewed and made recommendations of the current tax system. Now the state needs to take a careful look at the recommendations and take action. The state has individuals with a great deal of knowledge and understanding of the tax system. We need to value their expertise and implement their recommendations.	Conduct above board open meetings. Make sure all constituents have the information on the process and a voice.	It is a women's right to make her own decisions about her body.

NEW MEXICO STATE SENATE, DISTRICT 5

The League asked:	1. How can New Mexico diversify its economy to reduce reliance on income from the oil and gas industry?	2. How should New Mexico reform its tax system?	3. What measures would you support to make the redistricting process fairer and more transparent?	4. What is your position regarding reproductive rights?
Leo Jaramillo (Democrat)	As a long-term strategy, it is important to diversify our economy so that we have stronger sectors such as technology, agriculture, renewable energy, etc. contributing to our economy. But judging by the experiences of other states in a similar position, reaching those goals could take a long time. As a smaller state (in regard to population), NM has the greatest challenge. We are seeing the economic effects NM is feeling from COVID-19 on oil and gas and our dependency on its revenue.	NM needs a progressive tax structure in which we reverse tax cuts for the upper income tax brackets and for corporations. NM should close tax loopholes that benefit out of state corporations. Secondly, NM must diversify our economy and our tax base. We need to provide incentives for a clean energy economy in NM to offset the volatility of the oil and gas industry. Investments in broadband infrastructure could help to spur entrepreneurship and expansion of small businesses.	I would support the creation of an independent redistricting commission as proposed by The League of Women Voters and other good government groups in years past. By creating an independent redistricting commission, the 2021 redistricting process would be fairer and more transparent. Creating a commission and applying strong map drawing rules (including protections for communities of interest and people of color as well as a ban on partisan gerrymandering), would be a big win for New Mexicans.	Reproductive rights are fundamental human rights. Although I have deep respect for everyone's moral beliefs, I strongly believe that women should be given the right to make personal healthcare decisions with her health-care provider, and the government should not interfere.
Richard C. Martinez (Democrat)	We need to move forward with creating a more diverse renewable energy portfolio in New Mexico; especially since we have so much sun and wind; continue to issue tax credits to small business companies and support our local/ smaller communities in rural NM.	Repeal all tax breaks for higher income individuals statewide.	We should include the general public more often in determining these boundaries. Some smaller communities are bounced around the districts and feel that they are not part of a district! In my opinion I have always thought that the courts do a diligent job straightening some of these districts after they have been challenged.	I am a practicing Catholic and a Member of the Knights of Columbus Organization.
Lee G. Weinland (Libertarian)	We should be moving as rapidly as possible toward building a highly solar and wind energy system that will provide 100% of our energy needs from these sources. We can do it with the help of bonds without having to raise taxes. We must remove barriers on state & local levels from citizen's choices to use alternative energy. And we must lower service taxes & the GRT to retain quality businesses. Simply put, if we can cut the overall cost of doing business here, they will flock here and stay here.	Lower taxes without short changing vital programs. Eliminate the services portion of Gross Receipts Tax, to at least bring about parity with the neighboring states. The legislature should find ways to reduce the state's dependence on federal funds that crowd out private ventures. Make New Mexico a model state which offers streamlined, less complicated, & easier payment of taxes. Cut deductions that were crafted to buy support of favored industries, groups, & classes of individuals.	Stop letting legislators make the rules to suite their advantage. Redistricting is an intrinsically political process but might even up being decided in the courts. I would favor a commission selected from academics and professional cartographers to generate computer models based on compact geographic districts that fall along natural dividing features like roads etc. The legislature must agree among its members to just pick from a range of options delivered by the commission.	As a Libertarian, I take the position that we clearly are in favor that the government should pass no laws prohibiting a women's or man's right to safe reproductive health care and choices. As a devoted religious individual, I personally believe it is wrong to choose anything but life and respect anyone who has similar beliefs. But ultimately, I believe that all rights of all people especially those provided to all Americans in the Constitution, matter all the time.
Diamantina Prado Storment (Republican)	New Mexico is a land of opportunities and needs to support entrepreneurial success, while enticing new business relocation through tax incentives aimed at employing New Mexicans. Proper contract oversight, competitive unbiased contracting and better management of our current taxes are mechanisms to help reduce the reliance on the oil and gas industry.	New Mexico needs to have fiscal accountability and determine where the tax system needs to be reformed. At this time, I would love the opportunity to evaluate the fiscal issues this state is facing before proposing any unnecessary reform.	No comment at this time.	I am pro-life and live by Christian principals.

NEW MEXICO STATE SENATE, DISTRICT 19

The League asked:	1. How can New Mexico diversify its economy to reduce reliance on income from the oil and gas industry?	2. How should New Mexico reform its tax system?	3. What measures would you support to make the redistricting process fairer and more transparent?	4. What is your position regarding reproductive rights?
Claudia Risner (Democrat)	We need to shift away from the extractive fossil fuel industry to value-added production industries, such as manufacturing and construction. An example would be manufacturing, repairing, and recycling the components of wind turbines and solar panels in state as we build our wind and solar power generation and storage facilities. Other growth industries to expand in NM are medical services, outdoor recreation, and entertainment. We must be creative as we decouple our economy from oil and gas.	To decrease our reliance on oil and gas, we must generate revenue elsewhere. To make our tax system less regressive we should increase the personal income tax on top earners (more than 5.9%), increase corporate income tax (now lower than US average), and close the loopholes in gross receipts tax and keep it off of food. We can also increase the gasoline tax for road maintenance, increase tax credit for working families, and increase tax exclusions for families with young children.	To guard against partisan and racial gerrymandering and protect our community interests, NM should appoint an independent Redistricting Commission for redistricting. There are 13 states that have these in place and NM should evaluate their effectiveness and replicate a model that works well. Characteristics and features should include an internal system of checks and balances, good-faith negotiation, transparency, and representation from both parties as well as from neither major party.	All women should have access to safe and effective reproductive health care. A woman should be able to make this very personal decision with her doctor without government interference. People should respect this individual right and not impose restrictions that are inherently discriminatory and dangerous for women without the means to travel to where abortions are safe and legal.
John McDivitt (Libertarian)	New Mexico can diversify its economy by placing less reliance on government jobs and increasing tourism and private sector employment. One area we should aggressively pursue is attracting retirees. We have outstanding weather, excellent healthcare facilities and a competitive cost of living. But we also have high gross receipts and state income taxes plus we tax out of state municipal bonds. By reducing tax rates and becoming more business and retirement friendly we will strengthen our economy.	I believe New Mexico should consider a very low flat rate income tax. For people who feel this is regressive and unfair to those in the lower income brackets I would recommend excluding the first \$25,000 of income from taxation. I would also wish to extend a similar approach to businesses and corporations. I believe this will stimulate the state's economy and in the long run provide adequate revenue for the state government to fulfill its constitutional functions.	Redistricting is far too important to be left to politicians. With today's abundance of computer technology I propose we program a computer to make districts as close to square as possible and to contain as close to the same number of people as possible. This approach will effectively end Gerrymandering and take the politics out of the process. What could be more fair than that?	This issue is perhaps the most divisive in politics today. I don't believe there is a "right" answer to the question of abortion. To begin with the variables are staggering. There are legal rights of inheritance that a fetus enjoys but not the right to life itself? There are many compelling arguments on both sides of this issue. The health of the mother or fetus; the circumstances of conception and a woman's right to choose to carry to term. I would prefer adoption to abortion but I am not God.
Gregg Schmedes (Republican)	NO RESPONSE RECEIVED	NO RESPONSE RECEIVED	NO RESPONSE RECEIVED	NO RESPONSE RECEIVED
James White (Republican)	Research has shown that countries, regions, and cities, are most successful by expanding economic activities that are related to the ones they already have. To that end we must support and expand those assets we have in tourism, outdoor activity, and all types of energy production, We need tax policy that makes us competitive with other states, encourages local small businesses to grow, attracts vacationers and retirees, and does not discourage the arrival of new companies.	Compared to other western states, our tax burden is higher and more complex. The Gross Receipts Tax is troublesome in that it allows taxing multiple times before a final sale, it favors large business, and has fostered multiple tax exemptions. It should be revised to expand the base of taxable entities and lower the rate. Other tax changes should include an exemption from the double taxation of Social Security income.	Historically, the public paid little attention to the redistricting process. Today's electorate has a greater desire to be part of the process, so explaining and highlighting the activity would help. Splitting communities or even common interests is a concern and therefore greater transparency would help. Creating opportunities through public hearings, accessible web-sights, feedback opportunities is needed. The process itself has become more technology based allowing information to be shared.	I believe in the sanctity of life from conception through natural death. We spend unlimited resources to treat, maintain, and prolong life including extensive training for medical personal, costly medical research, and building outstanding facilities. We go to great lengths, including self-sacrificing efforts, to rescue people in danger. It is unreasonable to support human life in so many ways only to see it terminated through an intentional action.

NEW MEXICO STATE SENATE, DISTRICT 24

The League asked:	1. How can New Mexico diversify its economy to reduce reliance on income from the oil and gas industry?	2. How should New Mexico reform its tax system?	3. What measures would you support to make the redistricting process fairer and more transparent?	4. What is your position regarding reproductive rights?
 Nancy Rodriguez (Democrat)	Promoting our recently enacted renewable energy legislation for businesses and individuals such as the Solar Tax Credit and the Energy Transition Act are both steps in the right direction; supporting our outdoor economy through our recently created Outdoor Recreation Division; increasing the State percentage cap that can be used for business investments through legislation we recently enacted; continuing to support the NM Film Tax Credit as it infuses millions of dollars into our State's economy	Reforming our Tax System requires a careful and delicate balance between government, business and all people affected. We must make sure that we continue to keep food and medicine tax free as these are very regressive taxes on our population. We recently expanded the Working Families Tax Credit as part of Tax Reform Legislation.	It is imperative that the redistricting process is clearly transparent, not only in presentation but in open forum for meaningful and adequate public input. I support establishing an independent redistricting commission to accomplish this important goal. At a minimum our redistricting process must ensure population equality and must prevent any dilution of minority voting strength.	It is every woman's right to access affordable, high quality reproductive healthcare services without government interference. Personal decisions regarding a woman's reproductive rights should be between a woman, her family and her health care provider.
Scott Milenski (Libertarian)	NO RESPONSE RECEIVED	NO RESPONSE RECEIVED	NO RESPONSE RECEIVED	NO RESPONSE RECEIVED
 Leighton Cornish (Republican)	Increase tax incentives for industries and business not only for the film industry. America should be producing our own medicines and personal protective equipment. New Mexico could be a place capable of such industry.	New Mexico should offer veterans an incentive to stay or retire here. Veterans in many other states do not have to pay state income tax; maybe this could work here to incentivize military veterans and retirees to stay in New Mexico.	I do not know about that process yet.	I support Federal laws regarding reproductive rights.

NEW MEXICO STATE SENATE, DISTRICT 25

The League asked:	1. How can New Mexico diversify its economy to reduce reliance on income from the oil and gas industry?	2. How should New Mexico reform its tax system?	3. What measures would you support to make the redistricting process fairer and more transparent?	4. What is your position regarding reproductive rights?
Peter Wirth (Democrat)	Expand state support for film, renewable energy, start-ups, tourism, arts and culture. Prioritize New Mexico small businesses over out-of-state corporations.	Eliminate exemptions, deductions and credits that are not providing economic benefits. Build more progressivity into the tax code. Lower the gross receipts tax.	I support a hybrid redistricting commission where the Legislature still has some involvement in the process.	Women's decisions about reproductive health care, including abortion, should be between women and their doctors. Repealing New Mexico's unconstitutional 1969 law criminalizing abortion is a priority.
Ricardo Vargas (Republican)	NO RESPONSE RECEIVED	NO RESPONSE RECEIVED	NO RESPONSE RECEIVED	NO RESPONSE RECEIVED

NEW MEXICO STATE SENATE, DISTRICT 39

No responses received from all candidates: Elizabeth Stefanics (Democrat), Joseph Tiano (Republican), Susan Vescovo (Republican)

NEW MEXICO HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, DISTRICT 22

There are 70 members of the N.M. House of Representatives. All seats will be filled in the 2020 General Election. Representatives are elected for two-year terms. Santa Fe County includes all or part of nine House districts. In addition to other duties prescribed by law, representatives enact "reasonable and appropriate laws," represent the constituents of their district, and serve on standing or interim committees. The Legislature meets each year beginning in January. In odd-numbered years, it meets for 60 days; in even-numbered years, it meets for 30 days. The governor may call special sessions. Candidates must be at least 21 years old and must be a resident of the district from which elected. They serve a two-year term. Representatives do not receive a salary, but they do receive a preset per diem.

The League asked:	1. How can New Mexico diversify its economy to reduce reliance on income from the oil and gas industry?	2. How should New Mexico reform its tax system?	3. What measures would you support to make the redistricting process fairer and more transparent?	4. What is your position regarding reproductive rights?
 <p>Jessica Velasquez (Democrat)</p>	<p>New Mexico can diversify its economy by continuing to innovate in emerging sectors, like renewable energy, digital media, pharmaceuticals, cybersecurity, and aerospace, to name a few. We can also support further growth in the film industry, outdoor recreation, NM breweries and distilleries, and travel and tourism, as well as value-added agriculture. Diversifying the economy and reducing dependence on oil and gas will take time, and decisive action today will lead to a stronger economy tomorrow.</p>	<p>New Mexico needs to make our tax system more fair for working families and small business. We need to expand the working families tax credit, and do more to level the playing field for NM businesses so tax policies don't favor big out-of-state and multinational corporations at the expense of local business. I support increased transparency and accountability for tax credits offered by the state. A fairer, more transparent tax system benefits NM's economy and supports working families.</p>	<p>Elections are meant to represent the will of the people. Unfortunately, partisan politicians manipulate voting maps to keep themselves in power. I support redistricting reforms like nonpartisan redistricting commissions, hiring non-partisan staff, eliminating gerrymandering, mandating open and accessible meetings and documents, and instituting clear rules for how district lines are drawn. With appropriate reform measures, NM's elections can ensure fair representation for us all.</p>	<p>State policy should protect reproductive rights, beginning with age-appropriate, fact-based sexuality education. Birth control should be considered basic health care for both men and women. Access to birth control saves lives, helps prevent unintended pregnancies, improves outcomes for children, and reduces abortion. State policy about reproductive rights should trust a woman to make her own healthcare decisions with her family and her doctor, without government interference.</p>
<p>Stefani Lord (Republican)</p>	NO RESPONSE RECEIVED	NO RESPONSE RECEIVED	NO RESPONSE RECEIVED	NO RESPONSE RECEIVED

NEW MEXICO HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, DISTRICT 41

The League asked:	1. How can New Mexico diversify its economy to reduce reliance on income from the oil and gas industry?	2. How should New Mexico reform its tax system?	3. What measures would you support to make the redistricting process fairer and more transparent?	4. What is your position regarding reproductive rights?
 <p>Susan Herrera (Democrat)</p>	<p>Economic Diversification has enhanced Economic Development as a cornerstone for prosperity in NM. Today "Balanced Economic Diversification Planning" is on display in the Regional Economic Development Initiative (REDI) and Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) plans of Northern New Mexico (2015). Leadership needs strategies developed at the local level to be funded by state and national governments and foundations. Using local models is our best bet for diversification.</p>	<p>New Mexico is over reliant on oil and gas revenues and we need to realign our tax systems including the Personal Income Tax, the Gross Receipts Tax, and Property Taxes. Gross receipts taxes are at all time highs due to our inability to realign other tax revenue streams. These volatile tax revenues lead to wide swings in our annual income that leaves New Mexicans with start and stop programs. Revenue stabilization is our number one goal, it's time for change.</p>	<p>New Mexico should set up a bipartisan commission with equal numbers of Democrats and Republicans do redistrict the state. Redistricting is political, to say it should be different is to ignore reality. However, good people can be found with a strong record in fairness and bipartisanship to tackle this mandate. Hmmm . . . maybe the League of Women Voters?</p>	<p>I support a woman's right to make her own decisions about reproductive rights. No government should interfere in a personal decision about one's health.</p>

NEW MEXICO HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, DISTRICT 43

The League asked:	1. How can New Mexico diversify its economy to reduce reliance on income from the oil and gas industry?	2. How should New Mexico reform its tax system?	3. What measures would you support to make the redistricting process fairer and more transparent?	4. What is your position regarding reproductive rights?
 <p>Christine Chandler (Democrat)</p>	<p>Diversifying the state's economy must be addressed from many fronts. Our ability to attract businesses to the state is severely hamstrung by our low performing public education system and inadequate infrastructure. We must prioritize early childhood education and development and strengthen K-12 public education. The state must also place greater focus on post-secondary education, including vocational training. Business sectors that should be pursued include renewable energy and outdoor tourism.</p>	<p>The state's tax code is replete with a hodge-podge of exemptions, deductions and exceptions to the gross receipts tax and to a lesser extent, the income tax. A complete review of tax expenditures needs to be done with the aim of eliminating the large majority of these special tax breaks. This will make the tax system more equitable and broaden the base.</p>	<p>Redistricting processes that rely on some form of independent commission have shown to be less partisan and more open. I would support proposals to create a commission process in New Mexico.</p>	<p>A woman's decision regarding her reproductive health rests solely with her. The government should not be allowed to insert itself in the relationship between a woman, her doctor and her family.</p>
<p>David E. Hampton (Republican)</p>	NO RESPONSE RECEIVED	NO RESPONSE RECEIVED	NO RESPONSE RECEIVED	NO RESPONSE RECEIVED

NEW MEXICO HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, DISTRICT 45

The League asked:	1. How can New Mexico diversify its economy to reduce reliance on income from the oil and gas industry?	2. How should New Mexico reform its tax system?	3. What measures would you support to make the redistricting process fairer and more transparent?	4. What is your position regarding reproductive rights?
 <p>Carmichael Dominguez (Democrat)</p>	<p>This is something that needs to be done now more than ever. As New Mexico continues to address the Climate Crises and reduce our carbon footprint, we must diversify our economy. We must continue to improve education in New Mexico. Having a diverse and trained workforce allows New Mexico to diversify it's economy. We must do more to attract good, clean industry into our economy and having a trained workforce demonstrates our ability to diversify and be less dependent on oil and gas.</p>	<p>New Mexico needs to review it's entire tax system and this should be done on a consistent basis. First gross receipts tax reform should be addressed so that we can eliminate certain tax deductions and exemptions. A substantial part of income from lower-income New Mexicans goes to gross receipt taxes. As a former Finance Chair for the City of Santa Fe, I understand how dependent local government is on gross receipt taxes and reform should not affect the portion distributed to local government.</p>	<p>As a former City Councilor for the City of Santa Fe I initiated the first and only independent redistricting commission in the State of New Mexico and I support independent redistricting commissions throughout the State of New Mexico. Gerrymandering compromises our democracy and the concept of allowing voters to decide who represents them. There should be an independent selection process that screens applicants for disqualifications or conflicts of interest to become an independent commission.</p>	<p>What we are witnessing today goes far beyond limiting reproductive choices ... much of the legislation we are seeing today breaches the very foundation of freedom and certainly the human dignity of women. Across the U.S., state legislators are implementing antiquated and barbaric laws that would effectively criminalize women for making personal decisions about their reproductive rights. Men and women must speak out for women because in the end, reproductive choices must be solely up to a woman.</p>
 <p>Lisa Martinez (Democrat)</p>	<p>While New Mexico receives much revenue from royalties on oil and gas from our State public lands, which help fund our public schools and other State services, we must think more broadly about the consequences of our reliance on fossil fuels on global warming and the environment. I'll support incentives to foster our growing renewable and alternative fuels industries, especially solar and wind, as New Mexico has tremendous potential with these resources being among the best in the country.</p>	<p>In 2019, income tax changes made in HB6 will help New Mexico's most vulnerable families, providing more stability to state revenues and leveling the playing field for NM businesses. Additional ways to improve the fairness in our tax system to benefit working families, women and minority-held business, as well as all New Mexicans may include PIT and GRT reformation-GRT is a very regressive tax that hurts the poor. Establishing a diverse, stable revenue stream will aid in our quest for tax reform.</p>	<p>Redistricting is a complex issue combining people, geography, political affiliations, history, and more, making the simple definitions of "transparency & fairness" difficult. Defining clear standards, such as the following may help: Partisan Fairness: Ensure districts fairly represent voters from all political parties Community Integrity: Ensure Counties, cities and towns are kept in a single district, whenever possible Population Equality: Ensure each district has the same number of people</p>	<p>I am proudly Pro-Choice. I believe that New Mexican women have the right to choose their own destinies for themselves, not politicians. The government does not have an appropriate right to restrict such personal decisions. As a health and safety issue, I trust women to make the best decisions for their lives in consultation with their doctors and according to their own consciences and religious beliefs. These rights must be protected by law.</p>
<p>Yolanda Sena (Democrat)</p>	NO RESPONSE RECEIVED	NO RESPONSE RECEIVED	NO RESPONSE RECEIVED	NO RESPONSE RECEIVED
<p>Linda Serrato (Democrat)</p>	<p>My campaign refuses fossil fuel industry contributions because they have an outsized influence on our policies and I am proud to have been endorsed by the Rio Grande Chapter of the Sierra Club. I believe we must attract businesses to our state which ensure employees have access to benefits. Moreover, we can reverse the tax cuts for top earners in New Mexico which happened under the previous governors. In addition, to protect our local businesses, we must expand GRT to online sales.</p>	<p>As mentioned earlier, we need to make sure top earners in New Mexico are paying their fair share. It's time to end the social security tax which is the second highest in the nation and an undue burden on middle income seniors. Most importantly, we must diversify our tax system. Twice in my adulthood we have seen the crashing price of oil completely decimate our state budget. Diversifying our revenue will provide some stability to our economy in these tough times.</p>	<p>I support President Obama's and Attorney General Eric Holder's efforts to move redistricting to the hands of unelected judges to ensure fair elections.</p>	<p>I am the only candidate endorsed by Planned Parenthood Votes New Mexico in this race. We must stop politicizing this issue and ensure that women are able to receive the health care they need with the support of their families and their doctors. We can do more to support women and families including expanding support for domestic abuse support groups, increasing access to childcare in our state, and ensuring living wages for our working families.</p>
 <p>Patrick Varela (Democrat)</p>	<p>We need to work together with the Land Commissioner to lease land to more renewable and sustainable companies. We are blessed to live in a state to have sun all year round, wind, and geothermal. We can utilize those to attract "green" renewable energy businesses to NM. We'd have to ween ourselves the oil and industry and infuse these renewable businesses into the system while decreasing oil producers. Rewriting NMSA 6-10-10 to allow for the issuance and purchase of Green Bonds would be a start.</p>	<p>It is going to have to be worked on soon due to the COVID19. We are going to have a huge deficit. We are still losing revenue even though a law was passed to capture internet sales. I would also like to look at working on personal income taxes to make them more consistent across all incomes. I would also like to see more credits to at risk individuals such as seniors and individuals that are care givers. I would also like to review all the tax credits the state has issued and rework them.</p>	<p>I have always felt that the redistricting should be done through an independent committee made up of people not elected officials. Made up from many relevant organizations, So I would support an independent committee.</p>	<p>The position was defined back in 1973 with the Roe vs Wade decision. I sand in support of that decision as it is law. We as a state are behind and have to adjust our laws to reflect the same.</p>
 <p>Helen Milenski (Libertarian)</p>	<p>I believe a diverse economy is crucial for our state to be strong when unexpected hardships hit. I also believe that the oil and gas industry have a serious role to play in our state. We are not a metropolis. OUR backbone in New Mexico is small business. Any public servant should recognize we depend on both big economy and also the local, close to home economy. It is easy for career politicians to see the big money, but serving ALL the people means you respect the local businesses just as much.</p>	<p>Taxes have a vital role to play. It can benefit a state or cripple it. Elected officials have a critical responsibility when spending other people's money. Politicians either help, or hobble, the citizen. Some citizens need assistance and that is a fact. Healthcare, infrastructure, and education tied to classrooms, teachers, and students, should be maintained and expanded in critical cases. But, if any tax can responsibly be reduced it should be to allow the citizen control over their own money.</p>	<p>We have the data that clearly shows where voters reside. All state districts should be evaluated based on even disbursement of voters. Barring the fair disbursement process that is favored, but often geographically impractical, certain CLEAR boundaries should be the structure for a district. Threaded peninsulas in districts should be highly questioned, regardless of the majority party in that area. Gerrymandering is real and it should be eliminated. Fair voting processes should be respected.</p>	<p>I believe strongly that every person has dominion over their own body and that extends to a woman's right to choose. While I sympathize with people of faith and dogma regarding this issue, it is primarily a personal, and medical decision. Faith is a personal choice as well. There are numerous medical conditions that require the termination of a pregnancy for the safety of the woman, planned or unplanned. That choice should NEVER be the discretion of a politician. It is personal for a reason.</p>

NEW MEXICO HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, DISTRICT 46

The League asked:

1. How can New Mexico diversify its economy to reduce reliance on income from the oil and gas industry?

2. How should New Mexico reform its tax system?

3. What measures would you support to make the redistricting process fairer and more transparent?

4. What is your position regarding reproductive rights?



Andrea Romero (Democrat)

The time is critical for New Mexico to focus inward in the state to invest its funds. Early childhood education and homegrown industries such as in agriculture, outdoor recreation, film, high technology (e.g. tech-transfer from National Labs), and the legalization of recreational cannabis are a good start. As we recover from the COVID-19 crisis, we know that a strong economy is only as good as our public health. Any economic plan should be coupled with building a strong healthcare system.

We should have a flat tax across the state and ensure that we fix the regressive nature of our tax structure to better support small businesses and working families, and also focus on those who work in seasonal or boom/bust industries. We need to work from the bottom up to undue tax benefits that support only corporations and the wealthy and restructure to ensure we benefit the many and not just a few.

First and foremost, we should ensure our data reflects that of the 2020 Census. The redistricting process should also include independent redistricting commissions. These commissions should focus on inclusivity, good-faith negotiation, transparency which will allow for fair redistricting that protects community interests and guards against partisan, racial and class-based gerrymandering.

Reproductive rights are a right to have sovereignty over one's body and to access healthcare freely, safely and legally. They require 100% protection from any infringement on such rights. Private healthcare decisions are between those seeking care, their doctors and family. We need to protect these rights and honor them as we would any of our sacred rights to freedom and liberty.

Jay Groseclose (Republican)

Develop light manufacturing opportunities around existing natural resources in the state (including workforce). Develop recreation to include destination features and activities that facilitate tour group and individual participants such as theme parks, tours of historical sites and specific interests. Develop massive surveys of interest from existing tourism activities and nationwide advertising campaigns. Implement massive vocational/technical training in schools. Get control of federal land

Taxes on business is in reality paid by the consumer, not the business, and the state requires that businesses act as agents to collect and pay those taxes to the state. This requirement creates a massive infrastructure that requires business to inflate actual costs of goods and services. Create the ability within the existing state agency to streamline tax collection at one source that truly reflects what individuals pay for taxes rather than hiding taxes behind businesses and special taxes.

Base districting on population density rather than party affiliation, i.e., equal numbers of people within a district to achieve a population count target applied equally to each district. The areas of districts to be determined by equal population count target rather than split along lines of political party designations and should be confined geographically to compact areas to achieve the population target as compactly as possible.

Pro-life.

NEW MEXICO HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, DISTRICT 47

No responses received from all candidates: Brian Egolf Jr. (Democrat), Glen Berlin (Republican)

NEW MEXICO HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, DISTRICT 48

The League asked:

1. How can New Mexico diversify its economy to reduce reliance on income from the oil and gas industry?

2. How should New Mexico reform its tax system?

3. What measures would you support to make the redistricting process fairer and more transparent?

4. What is your position regarding reproductive rights?

Linda Trujillo (Democrat)

First and foremost we must continue to improve public education. This includes the full spectrum from pre-k through higher education. Increasing access to career and technical education opportunities is critical to expanding the workforce in NM, which will increase the types of business we can grow and recruit. The labs also have a huge impact with spin-off businesses. We must increase our economic development programs so these businesses start and stay in NM

While I support business incentives, I want those incentives to report to the legislature so the impact and effectiveness can be reviewed annually. Those incentives that are not increasing high paying jobs should be eliminated. I do not support taxing food. I do support the steps the legislature has taken over the course of the last few years, but I do want the GRT pyramid effect to be addressed.

I support efforts to ensure redistricting truly represents communities. However, I have not seen an independent model that would represent the diversity of our state. At this time I believe the legislature does represent the diversity of communities better than a smaller appointed commission. I will keep an open mind and critically consider legislation concerning redistricting.

I believe women should have control of their own healthcare decisions in discussions with their healthcare provider.

NEW MEXICO HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, DISTRICT 50

The League asked:

1. How can New Mexico diversify its economy to reduce reliance on income from the oil and gas industry?

2. How should New Mexico reform its tax system?

3. What measures would you support to make the redistricting process fairer and more transparent?

4. What is your position regarding reproductive rights?



Matthew McQueen (Democrat)

The need to diversify our economy has moved from urgent to critical. We have made significant strides in some industries, but there's more work to be done. New Mexico is a leader in film and television production. We have tremendous tourism resources and more that can be developed, including in outdoor recreation. As we work to improve our healthcare system we will also attract more retirees to the state. Finally, we have incredible, largely untapped potential in tech businesses.

We must restore progressivity to our income tax code. The wealthy can and should pay more than they have in recent years. Second homes should be taxed at their "current and correct" value. Our roads need help so we should increase our gas tax while avoiding regressivity by protecting low and moderate-income consumers. Finally, the Working Families Tax Credit, which was recently increased from 10% to 17%, should be further increased to 20%.

Voters should pick their elected officials; elected officials shouldn't pick their voters. I support a citizen-led, nonpartisan redistricting commission, subject to the Open Meetings Act, with input from the general public. The process must be public and transparent, with accessible, web-casted hearings held across the state.

I believe that the full range of reproductive healthcare is between the patient, their family, and their doctors without government interference. I have earned Planned Parenthood's endorsement every year as a legislative champion for women's rights. In a time when reproductive rights are under threat, I am proud to say that I have once again earned Planned Parenthood's endorsement in this primary for my consistency and trustworthiness on reproductive health.

Rebecca "Becky" Spindle (Democrat)

NO RESPONSE RECEIVED

NO RESPONSE RECEIVED

NO RESPONSE RECEIVED

NO RESPONSE RECEIVED

Jerry Gage (Libertarian)

NO RESPONSE RECEIVED

NO RESPONSE RECEIVED

NO RESPONSE RECEIVED

NO RESPONSE RECEIVED

Christina Estrada (Republican)

NO RESPONSE RECEIVED

NO RESPONSE RECEIVED

NO RESPONSE RECEIVED

NO RESPONSE RECEIVED

NEW MEXICO HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, DISTRICT 70

The League asked:

1. How can New Mexico diversify its economy to reduce reliance on income from the oil and gas industry?

2. How should New Mexico reform its tax system?

3. What measures would you support to make the redistricting process fairer and more transparent?

4. What is your position regarding reproductive rights?

Robert Anaya (Democrat)

I believe we need to have a diversified renewable energy portfolio that continues to utilize our solar and wind energy opportunities. Transmission is key to the transmission of this energy expanded transmission through NM to other states will help us sell this energy. New Mexico is rich with tourism but has opportunities to expand our reach to bring new visitors to New Mexico centered around eco tourism, equine and outdoor activities. Improved manufacturing, broadband, health, and education.

There is no easy solution to replace a regressive tax system, the legislative study's and work that have been done thus far need to be continued and developed in close coordination with each of the municipalities and counties statewide. We need a system that is fair and appropriate for the individual tax payer and serves the state of New Mexico. A comprehensive strategy that recognizes the collective needs of our tax system at the federal, state and local level is essential to its success.

I support a third party entity to provide review and oversight of the process.

I support Roe Vs Wade and a women's right and choice. I support individual rights related to health and personal choice as afforded by law.

Ambrose Castellano (Democrat)

NO RESPONSE RECEIVED

NO RESPONSE RECEIVED

NO RESPONSE RECEIVED

NO RESPONSE RECEIVED



Anita Gonzales (Democrat)

New Mexico has a potential for growth in multiple industries that include alternative energy, agriculture, marijuana legalization, aerospace and defense, distribution and transportation, manufacturing, digital media and film, and administrative and federal government support. We need to invest in other industries in order to see an improved diversification in revenue. Long term, we need to create a workforce through education that is attractive to business and prioritize tax reform.

We should work towards a more progressive system which prioritizes families, small businesses, and our working class. We need to lessen our reliance on changing severance taxes from oil and gas; close corporate loopholes that do not directly relate to job growth; eliminate the many deductions and exemptions; and increase our capital gains tax. It is important to have personal income tax that ensures a climb in the higher income brackets and not in our middle and lower income tax brackets.

Redistricting should strive to preserve communities of interest, consider geographic boundaries, and attempt to be reasonably compact. Rural areas are highly impacted with a larger geographic area, often with fewer resources and boundaries that are not always practical. I would support an independent commission to work with legislators and provide valuable input. This would help with transparency to create an engaged electorate and ensure districts are bound together with some commonality.

It is a basic right to be able to make free and responsible decisions with regards to family planning, be given information, and have access to health services. Reproductive rights are highly personal. A woman should be able to make personal decisions with her healthcare provider and free of government interference. Each of us, guided by our own faith, has the right to make our own personal decisions, but there should always be safe and legal options with regards to a woman's health.

Nathan Dial (Republican)

NO RESPONSE RECEIVED

NO RESPONSE RECEIVED

NO RESPONSE RECEIVED

NO RESPONSE RECEIVED



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New Mexico State Judicial Offices

Vacancies for courts in New Mexico are filled through appointment by the governor from a slate of potential nominees submitted by a judicial nominating commission. The appointed judge must then run in a contested, partisan election at the next general election. The candidate receiving the most votes will be elected. Thereafter, the judge runs in nonpartisan retention elections for a set term. To be retained, a judge must receive at least 57% "yes" votes out of all those cast for that office. The website of the Judicial Performance Evaluation Committee, www.nmjec.org, includes evaluations and information about retention candidates.

SUPREME COURT JUSTICE, POSITION 1

The five Supreme Court justices are elected by all voters in the state and serve eight-year terms. To be eligible to hold the office of Justice of the Supreme Court, a person must be 35 years old, have practiced law for at least 10 years, and have resided in New Mexico for the last 3 years. The Supreme Court serves as the administrative head of the New Mexico judicial branch of government. It is the "court of last resort" for state appellate actions, regulates attorneys and judges, and has superintending control over all lower state courts. It has jurisdiction over civil cases where jurisdiction is not specifically vested in the state Court of Appeals, appeals from criminal cases imposing the death penalty or life imprisonment, appeals from decisions of the New Mexico Public Regulation Commission, certiorari review of state Court of Appeals decisions, and cases certified to it by the state Court of Appeals or any federal court.

The League asked:	1. What has been your greatest achievement as a judge?	2. What policies are critical to keep the judiciary independent from political influence?	3. What reforms do you support to ensure all persons have adequate access to legal help and the legal system?	4. How should a judge bring important legal or judicial issues before the public or the legislature?
Shannon Bacon (Democrat)	My greatest achievement as a judge has been working to expand pro bono services to New Mexicans in need. I have worked over the last ten years to establish large quarterly legal fairs and monthly civil and domestic relations legal fairs. I have also worked to provide free legal advice for people needing assistance with adult guardian ships, Real ID and estate planning.	The most important step New Mexico has taken to keep the judiciary independent from political influence is establishing public financing for statewide judicial candidates. Public financing provides campaign funds to any candidate who decides to pursue public financing. This process keeps corporate and special interest groups out of judicial campaigns. My campaign is financed through public financing. I would like to see public financing expanded to all levels of judicial races.	There are needed reforms to assist people who cannot afford to hire a lawyer. I support reforms to adequately fund civil legal services, creating greater and better opportunities for lawyers to provide legal services for free and working with community partners (doctors, schools, libraries) to identify people in need of legal help. Access to the courts and the legal system should not be limited to people who have money and/or privilege.	The courts take great care when bringing legal/judicial issues before the public or legislature. We thoroughly vet any issue before it is presented. This is critical to ensure that any issue raised is important to the advancement of the judiciary and is not an issue that creates conflicts of interest or relates to issues pending before the courts. As a Justice, I would subject any issue I might think is important to bring to the public's or legislature's attention to this vetting process.
Ned S. Fuller (Republican)	NO RESPONSE RECEIVED	NO RESPONSE RECEIVED	NO RESPONSE RECEIVED	NO RESPONSE RECEIVED

SUPREME COURT JUSTICE, POSITION 2

The League asked:	1. What has been your greatest achievement as a judge?	2. What policies are critical to keep the judiciary independent from political influence?	3. What reforms do you support to ensure all persons have adequate access to legal help and the legal system?	4. How should a judge bring important legal or judicial issues before the public or the legislature?
David K. Thomson (Democrat)	My greatest achievement as a Judge is when a party feels, after they have left the courtroom, that their issue was addressed and that a timely decision was made. In addition, that they feel I was knowledgeable and gave fair and unbiased consideration to their position. I am proud of my initiative with the State Bar to create a minority clerkship program that provides minority and disadvantaged law students summer externships with appellate courts.	Before I was appointed to the Supreme Court by the Governor, I was vetted and deemed qualified by a bipartisan commission made up of lawyers and non-lawyers. In addition, as a member of the state judiciary, I am evaluated by an independent Judicial Performance Evaluation Commission. The independent commissions ensure that a Judge or Justice's qualifications are considered separate from any political considerations. We should consider removing partisan elections of judges.	1/3 of our counties have ten or fewer attorneys and three counties have no active resident attorneys. Adequate access to legal services is one of my highest priorities. I learned from my father, who worked on legal aid issues with Navajo Nation, what a vital role affordable legal representation makes to a society. I propose loan forgiveness programs for attorneys who practice in underserved areas, requiring attorneys provide more pro bono services, and limited licenses for paralegals.	Courthouses are at the frontlines of issues that impact society. In the right circumstance, it is our job to communicate to the policy makers about trends we are seeing. When reports surfaced regarding the abuses of the guardianship system, I worked on a task force to improve court procedures and legislative changes to ensure a fair/transparent process. When I saw long lines in my court waiting for name changes because of Real ID, I worked with MVD to create legal education classes and clinics.
Kerry J. Morris (Republican)	NO RESPONSE RECEIVED	NO RESPONSE RECEIVED	NO RESPONSE RECEIVED	NO RESPONSE RECEIVED

COURT OF APPEALS, POSITION 1

The 10 judges on the Court of Appeals are elected statewide and serve 8-year terms. Eligibility requirements: a person must be 35 years old, have practiced law for at least 10 years, and have resided in New Mexico for the last 3 years. As the intermediate appellate court between the district courts and the Supreme Court, the Court of Appeals reviews appeals in all cases, except criminal cases involving sentences of death or life imprisonment, appeals from the New Mexico Public Regulation Commission, and cases involving habeas corpus. The judges sit in panels of three judges to decide cases.

The League asked:	1. What has been your greatest achievement as a judge?	2. What policies are critical to keep the judiciary independent from political influence?	3. What reforms do you support to ensure all persons have adequate access to legal help and the legal system?	4. How should a judge bring important legal or judicial issues before the public or the legislature?
Zach Ives (Democrat)	I have been part of a collective effort to address our court's backlog. This involves an extraordinary amount of work by all of our judges, law clerks, attorneys, paralegals, and administrative staff. Our court's success has been remarkable so far. I think my greatest contribution to this effort has been ensuring that the quality of the work has remained high as we decide cases at the expected pace. Every case is important, and we must give each one the time and attention it deserves.	If New Mexico continues to have partisan judicial elections, it is critical that we have a properly designed and sufficiently funded public financing system. That will prevent well financed contributors from trying to gain influence over our judiciary, and it will maintain public confidence that judges are not swayed by campaign contributions. Our current system allows judges to choose to publicly finance their campaigns, and I have done so.	For civil matters, I support the Justice For All Initiative. Its goals are to ensure that every person with legal needs can (1) access important components of our system with or without the help of a lawyer and (2) receive appropriate services, such as alternative dispute resolution and representation by a lawyer. For criminal matters, I believe we must adequately fund legal representation for people who cannot afford to pay private lawyers. This applies to victims and those who are accused.	The most straightforward way is to discuss the issue in a written legal opinion. As appellate judges, we are fortunate that our opinions are published, which gives us a good opportunity to highlight important issues. This often involves pointing out a statute that the court finds confusing or otherwise difficult to apply. I think it could be helpful for each appellate court to provide a list of such opinions to the Legislature and the Governor before each legislative session.
Barbara V. Johnson (Republican)	NO RESPONSE RECEIVED	NO RESPONSE RECEIVED	NO RESPONSE RECEIVED	NO RESPONSE RECEIVED

COURT OF APPEALS, POSITION 2

The League asked:	1. What has been your greatest achievement as a judge?	2. What policies are critical to keep the judiciary independent from political influence?	3. What reforms do you support to ensure all persons have adequate access to legal help and the legal system?	4. How should a judge bring important legal or judicial issues before the public or the legislature?
Shammara H. Henderson (Democrat)	I was just appointed by the Governor and began on the first day of the stay-at-home order, but my greatest achievement has been to always fight for the right outcome no matter what side of the aisle I find myself on. As a prosecutor, I was able to protect society from threat while as a defense attorney, ensure the rights of the wrongly accused are protected. When people said I couldn't win, I remember a case where we appealed a wrongful detention and the prosecutor dismissed the charges.	Public financing is the single greatest effort to keep the judiciary independent. Receiving over 1,000 \$5 contributions from the public, to qualify, ensures the campaign interacts with the public. This interaction ensures that judges better understand the needs of the public and allows judges to educate the public on the importance of the judiciary and the courts.	More resources for pretrial detention/sentencing hearings. Judges can only make decisions on detention and/or imprisonment based on information presented. That amount of information varies depending on interviews with the accused, their family, and research regarding criminal history, work history, local ties to the community, etc. This affects the judges' ability to determine whether a person is a threat to the community. More information available allows judges to make the best decisions.	I vividly remember mentors of mine advocating for resources and changes in the law on the NM Supreme Court. The Court of Appeals hears more appeals than any other court in the state and is therefore responsible for ensuring the law is being appropriately applied in a way that no other court is required. Because of this unique vantage point, I can work with my colleagues throughout the whole court system to identify needs and support efforts to address them.
Stephen P. Curtis (write-in) (Libertarian)	NO RESPONSE RECEIVED	NO RESPONSE RECEIVED	NO RESPONSE RECEIVED	NO RESPONSE RECEIVED
Gertrude Lee (Republican)	NO RESPONSE RECEIVED	NO RESPONSE RECEIVED	NO RESPONSE RECEIVED	NO RESPONSE RECEIVED

PUBLIC REGULATION COMMISSION, DISTRICT 3

The PRC is a five-person commission that regulates the utilities, telecommunications and motor carrier industries. It also oversees pipeline and fire safety. A candidate must be a citizen of the United States and reside in the district he/she represents. A candidate must also have at least 10 years of specified professional experience and education in an area regulated by the Commission. Commissioners are elected by district and have four-year staggered terms.

The League asked:	1. What in your background qualifies you to sit on the Public Regulation Commission?	2. When evaluating requests for utility rate increases, what factors should be considered to ensure fairness to both the public and the companies involved?	3. What should the PRC do to help ensure access to high quality broadband and internet service to under-served areas of the state?	4. What is your position regarding increased renewable energy production and transmission lines?
 Brian Edward Harris (Democrat)	I have deep experience in utilities regulation. 29 years as an attorney, (including two years at the PRC telecommunications economist, 10 years as a ratepayer advocate for the NM Attorney General and as an assistant to Commissioner Stephen Fischmann). I have seen how the PRC operates and understand the role of Commissioners and how they can advance New Mexico's green energy mandate. Ever since I served as a Peace Corps volunteer in central Africa, I've been committed to public service.	Make sure that any requested increase is "just and reasonable" (the legal standard), and that investments will result in "used and useful" infrastructure. It's vital we hear from all stakeholders. Are the facts supporting the requested rate increase true and accurate? For example sometimes a utility will rely on projected population growth. Is it an accurate and reasonable assumption? Were the witnesses credible? These are intensely litigated cases, with constitutional rights at stake.	The PRC administers the Rural Universal Service Fund. This fund collects approximately \$29 million/year, yet we still get reports of lack of access to the internet. Many of the rules governing telecommunications pre-date the internet, so we need to look at how well these laws are serving New Mexico. There are many smaller and local internet service providers that are capable of filling in some of these gaps in coverage. We should be looking at how to update how we subsidize telecom service.	I supported the Energy Transition Act working for Commissioner Fischmann and look forward to implementing it as a Commissioner. It is simply vital that the PRC implement our clean energy transition as quickly as possible. I trust the science. Global warming is an existential threat to humanity and we must eliminate greenhouse gas emissions. Green energy investments in NM will also help us recover faster from the economic impacts of the quarantine. PRC can help get more investment in NM.
 Joseph M. Maestas (Democrat)	I have a bachelors and master's degrees in civil engineering. I've been a licensed engineer for 33 years and licensed in the States of New Mexico, Arizona, and Texas. I have over 30 years of Federal civil service as an engineer spent in transportation (US Dept. of Transportation), water resources (US Dept. of the Interior), and general engineering. I've been a program and project manager for 20 years supervising various technical teams. I currently work for a private engineering firm. I'm ready!	By law, I will ensure utility costs are reasonable and prudent, including a reasonable equity return, in providing reasonable, reliable service. In allowing the utility to recover these costs, I will make sure that different customer classes are fairly charged. I will consider rates consistency with resource plans. I will push for rates that adjust frequently to ensure that revenue is neither more nor less than what is needed to cover a utility's fixed costs to expand energy efficiency programs.	The PRC should increase the annual financial aid to rural carriers and customers for broadband deployment in underserved areas through the New Mexico Rural Universal Service Fund (NMRUSF) from \$26M to \$30M. The PRC should increase the Broadband Program (part of the NMRUSF) above the current \$5 million for investments in approved broadband projects across NM. The PRC must ensure that approved broadband projects are completed within the three-year limit with annual funds fully obligated. Yes!	I believe the higher renewable energy production goals included in the 2019 Energy Transition Act will grow the renewable energy sector and diversify our economy while reducing our dependence on fossil fuels. We need to expand our transmission infrastructure and modernize the grid to deliver renewable energy to our citizens and to nearby States. Achieving carbon-free energy by 2045 (2050 for electric coops) establishes NM as a national leader in a transition to clean energy. Very exciting!
Christopher B. Luchini (Libertarian)	NO RESPONSE RECEIVED	NO RESPONSE RECEIVED	NO RESPONSE RECEIVED	NO RESPONSE RECEIVED

PUBLIC EDUCATION COMMISSION, DISTRICT 4

The Public Education Commission is a 10-person commission that is advisory to the Secretary of Education. The Commission authorizes and monitors all state-chartered charter schools. Commissioners must be 18 years of age, a United States citizen, and reside in the district they represent. They serve four-year staggered terms. Districts 1, 4, 8, 9 and 10 are up for election in 2020.

The League asked:

1. What in your background qualifies you to sit on the Public Education Commission?

2. If elected, what are your two highest priorities?

3. What is your position on opening new charter schools? Should there be a cap on the total number of state charter schools?

4. How should the PEC assess the financial stability of schools before authorizing or renewing a charter?



Rebekka Kay Burt (Democrat)

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

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

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

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



Laura Burrows (Libertarian)

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

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

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

Rationally and logically, and without political or institutional bias.

PUBLIC EDUCATION COMMISSION, DISTRICT 10

The League asked:

1. What in your background qualifies you to sit on the Public Education Commission?

2. If elected, what are your two highest priorities?

3. What is your position on opening new charter schools? Should there be a cap on the total number of state charter schools?

4. How should the PEC assess the financial stability of schools before authorizing or renewing a charter?



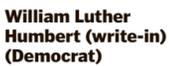
Steven J. Carrillo (write-in) (Democrat)

First and foremost, having a record of accomplishment as a school board member serving SFPS for the last eight years. I've greatly expanded my knowledge of education issues, honed my skills in developing oversight policy, and have always been able to cut through the noise and get the heart of the matter. Ability to see and understand where obstacles may be and to move through them in a respectful and productive manner. Finally, no politics; always putting kids first in my decision making.

Protecting the interests of students and their families. I would work with the commissioners to streamline cumbersome administrative processes and strive to eliminate redundancies that make for confusion and frustration. Let's develop a five year strategic plan, and guiding standards and policies that make life easier and more clear for our school directors, staff, and families. I believe we should be fair minded and transparent, keeping politics out of our decision-making.

No. There should not be a cap on the number of state charter schools. But this is not a binary choice. This is really determined by the "market." Is there a need that the proposed charter would fill that the school district is unable to? If so, then the proposed charter must be considered. Also, we must be mindful, and consider how an additional school will fit within the education landscape in the school district. So, it follows then that I have no issue with opening new charters.

As one would evaluate the merits and/or deficiencies of any business plan presented in the private sector. Has a balanced budget been developed that meets the regulatory requirements of the PED? And most importantly, does the financial plan meet the needs of teachers, minimize administrative costs, focus on teaching & learning, and ensure that the school lives up to its vision and mission. Look for dollars to the classroom. Remember, kids first. This goes for authorizing and renewing.



William Luther Humbert (write-in) (Democrat)

NO RESPONSE RECEIVED

NO RESPONSE RECEIVED

NO RESPONSE RECEIVED

NO RESPONSE RECEIVED



LeAnne Christine Salazar Montoya (write-in) (Democrat)

Working in NM as an educator since 2001, (as a teacher, principal, director, and superintendent) I feel that my personal, professional, and educational background have prepared me to make educated decisions about what is best for the children of New Mexico. I have a BS in Elementary Education from UNM, an MA from UNM and NMSU and a PhD in educational leadership from NMSU. Moreover, I am a mother, a neighbor, and a friend whose served my community as a youth leader for over 15 years.

If elected, I would first like to ensure that our charter schools are held accountable not only financially but held accountable for their academic growth and performance measures. Our tax dollars should continue to serve the unique needs and creative nature of our charter schools but accountability is key! Secondly, I would like to develop a system that highlights the high performing charter schools, and share their recipes for success!! Education is the key to our communities future!

I believe that there should be a formula for charter schools that limits charter schools per capita. Charter schools have many benefits and often they strive to carve a niche for a very particular sub population of a community, but reaching these students cannot be at the expense of our traditional public schools. Therefore, I cannot say there is a magic number at this time, but I do believe that in order to remain a fully funded school, you must maintain the vision you were founded upon.

I believe the PEC should assess the correlations that identify the number of students served, the performance measures and the per student investment in the community to develop a analysis on the return on investment. If there is negative correlation, then the charter should be reviewed and a more qualitative approach should be taken on its viability, and success. Both qualitative and quantitative data must be considered for a truly just decision to be made!

District Court Judge, 1st Judicial District

New Mexico's 33 counties are divided into 13 judicial districts. The First Judicial District includes Los Alamos, Rio Arriba and Santa Fe Counties. These are courts of general jurisdiction that hold jury trials in the following types of civil cases: tort, contract, real property rights and estate contests. The district courts in New Mexico generally have exclusive jurisdiction over cases involving domestic relations, mental health, appeals for administrative agencies and lower courts, criminal appeals, and juvenile cases. To be eligible a person must be at least 35 years old, have practiced law for at least six years preceding assumption of office, and reside in the district for which he/she is elected. Judges serve six-year terms. Division 3 is a Family Court. Division 6 is a Civil Court.

DIVISION 3: FAMILY COURT

The League asked:

1. How can you as a judge improve the foster care system?

2. What policies are critical to keep the judiciary independent from political influence?

3. What experience and education do you believe a District Court Judge needs? What are your qualifications in these areas?



Shannon Broderick Bulman (Democrat)

As a family court judge, I handle kinship guardianships, an alternative to state foster care. These cases have increased due to the devastating impact of substance abuse disorder. I must assess cases to ensure that each child is protected within the limits of state law. I refer parties to community services to support children, caregivers and those parents who seek recovery. The formal foster care system is created by the legislature and administered by CYFD; judges cannot change the system.

An independent judiciary is critical to maintain public confidence in the rule of law. Since 1988, the NM Constitution has required that judicial candidates be vetted by a politically balanced judicial nominating commission. In order to retain their seat, appointed judges must then stand for election in the general election immediately following appointment. Public financing for some judicial positions has been another positive step toward removing political influence from the process.

Judges bring an array of different professional experiences to the bench. As a new judge, I have found it invaluable to have worked for decades in our community to assist individuals and families to assess their legal issues and resolve disputes, both through mediation and litigation. This work has afforded me some insight into the strengths of our families in Northern New Mexico and the various social and economic challenges they encounter.

DIVISION 6: CIVIL COURT

The League asked:

1. What policies are critical to keep the judiciary independent from political influence?

2. What is your judicial philosophy?

3. What experience and education do you believe a District Court Judge needs? What are your qualifications in these areas?



Bryan Paul Biedscheid (Democrat)

Policies we currently have: Bipartisan Judicial Selection Committees comprised of lawyers, judges, and citizens that review credentials and recommend candidates to the Governor for appointment. Public Financing for state-wide judicial positions (district judge candidates would also benefit from this) Informed voters, who understand the legal basis for decisions. Policies we do NOT have: Consistent commitment to adequately funding the judicial branch (regardless of partisan views on decisions)

I am committed to public service. While I am honored to be given judicial authority, I work with the public, attorneys, and other branches of government to the extent possible. As a judge, I cannot do my job and make everyone happy with my decisions. However, my decisions are to move the process forward, protect constituents, and carry out laws. I work with lawyers and parties to the fullest extent possible. I also love working with juries, as they teach me something new every trial!

Each judge in our district brings a unique combination of experience and education to the job and they are all very effective in different ways. For me, I find that my 20+ years as a lawyer, my obsession with preparation, and my patience are my most useful attributes. Carefully reviewing lawyer and party submissions is time consuming but, reading them and then concentrating on courtroom arguments leads to the best decisions. I have lost my patience on a few occasions, but standards matter too

DISTRICT ATTORNEY, 1ST JUDICIAL DISTRICT

New Mexico District Courts handle civil suits involving real estate or claims over \$10,000, juvenile cases, divorce and child custody, criminal felony cases, and appeals from lower courts. The First Judicial District of New Mexico includes Los Alamos, Rio Arriba, and Santa Fe Counties. District Attorneys serve a four-year term.

The League asked:

1. What are your qualifications for this position?

2. How would you deal with repeat DWI offenders?

3. What improvements are needed in the Office of the District Attorney?



Mary V. Carmack-Altwies (Democrat)

In my 15 years as an attorney, I have worked on both sides of the courtroom. I started my career as a public defender, then as a criminal defense attorney, and now in the Santa Fe District Attorney's office as the head of the Special Victim and Violent Crimes divisions. I've tried upwards of 50 jury trial cases for crimes ranging from misdemeanors to first degree murder. And, I've managed offices of upwards of twelve to fifteen attorneys.

I will invest in treatment programs, track their efficacy and adapt them to make real progress in reducing DWI. One outcome of these programs is reducing the number of repeat DWI offenders. If we can reach people earlier in the cycle of substance abuse then the offender, any potential victims as well as the community at large, are all safer. For the people that are offered the opportunity to complete these programs yet face 4, 5 and more DWI charges we must explore serious punitive measures.

I will put the full power of the office behind reducing crimes against children, working with the appropriate parties to identify at-risk children and offering early intervention services the whole family. I will also pursue substance abuse prevention programs. Violent criminals should go to jail, but the state's emphasis on incarceration for low-level offenses simply has not worked. We need to change that, and it starts with treating substance abuse issues as medical and mental health issues.



Scott Fuqua (Democrat)

The principal job of the elected District Attorney is making sure the office runs as smoothly and efficiently as possible. That requires management and leadership skills. In addition to all of the time I've spent in the courtroom — including arguing over 40 cases to the New Mexico Supreme Court — I was the director of the Litigation Division at the Attorney General's Office from 2010 to 2014 under Gary King. I managed more than 20 different people — about half the number at the DA's office.

Treatment. Statistically, the chance that a repeat DWI offender struggles with alcoholism in his or her daily life is nearly 1. Jail and probation have not addressed the problem because alcoholism requires treatment. There are several private organizations with which the criminal justice system can partner to aid those struggling with addiction get the help they need. And even if it doesn't work for those offenders not yet ready to change, if it works for anyone it has made us all safer.

The office needs strong leadership, something I provided at the Attorney General's Office. It could also use some structural reorganization as prosecution priorities shift away from low-level offenses to violent crimes. Given the number of open cases the office has at any moment, it also makes sense to organize workflow around the judges to whom those cases are assigned so that an attorney isn't in the position of having to be in two (or more) courtrooms at the same time because of scheduling.

SANTA FE COUNTY CLERK

Four-year term. Must be at least 18 years of age and a resident of the county from which elected. The Clerk is the ex-officio recorder of Santa Fe County and may legally record any document that is certified. The office also issues marriage and occupational licenses. The County Clerk's Bureau of Elections administers all elections in the County.

The League asked:

1. How do your abilities, experience and education prepare you for this office?



Katharine Clark (Democrat)

I have a dual BA in Cognitive Neuroscience and Ethical Psychology (UC Berkeley) and hold a dual emphasis MBA in Human Resources and Public Policy & Leadership (UNM). I have a scientific, marketing and advocacy background with 15 years of managing consistently innovative and high-performing teams in the tech, academic, legislative and non-profit sectors including running the campaign with the highest Democratic turnout in the NM. I have held several officer positions in the Democratic Party.



Bryan Flores (Democrat)

I have lived in Santa Fe County all of my life I have been married for 25 years have two children and two grandchildren. I attended Santa Fe High school and received a criminal justice degree from the Santa Fe community college. I have worked for major retailers were I managed Loss prevention staff for 12 stores in New Mexico and Arizona. I have worked in state and county correctional facilities as shift commander, unit managers and supervised security staff along with inmate population.



Sarah Guzman (Democrat)

My experience and education have fully prepared me to meet the challenges of the office. As a previous administrator, I always strived to demonstrate that I valued and respected every employee, and worked to discover alongside of them how to improve working conditions to change the status quo. I have a proven track record of leading personnel in organizational change, in order to positively impact the overall outcomes and productivity of an organization, and would work toward achieving that here.



Letitia Montoya (Democrat)

Assure Financial Group-Develop, implement, manage compliance with federal & state regulations. Prepare yearly budgets. Oversee day to day operations & employees. Quality control for customer service. Santa Fe Medical Labs & TRW-Configure data management system to be user friendly. Quality assurance to ensure the proper operation of newly installed software & hardware. Develop operational procedures & instruction. My education B.S. in Mathematics, Minor in Computer Science, & Masters in Education.



Richard Padilla (Democrat)

My experiences include 17 years with the County Clerk, which involved voting machine supervisor, voting systems administrator, and Director of Operations under the Secretary of State. I have extensive knowledge of statutory requirements as it relates to the election code deadlines. I worked directly with the County Clerk employees, presiding judges and poll workers in election preparation and procedures. My education includes a detailed understanding of voting machines and effective communication.

2. What are your highest priorities for this office?

My three priority platform positions: 1.) election protection - improving security measures and polling place processes, monitoring potential voter suppression, 2.) expand ballot access to increase turnout — championing an all-mail ballot (with ballot drop-off and assistance), same-day voter registration, and ensuring those with challenges are specially protected and 3.) expanding the user-friendly clerk's office to include a ticketing system with options for document delivery and payment.

To maintain the integrity of public records, public information act and election process as mandated by law.

To change our future electorate, so that people feel empowered at the polls. To make voter education accessible to everyone. To expand the availability of bilingual information and resources. To conduct a thorough examination of our voting machines, reporting processes, and general records in order to secure and enhance current office operations. To lobby our state legislatures for increased access to additional voting methods, by exploring best practices for curbside voting and mail-in ballots.

Increase voter participation by demonstrating the connection between value of Voting and Quality of Life! Expedite election results. Support vote by mail & open primary. Outreach to school districts to create voter education programs. Review technology infrastructure of the clerk's office. Electronic filing (paper-free operation) and improved customer service. Upgrading the Santa Fe County Clerk's website to make the website more user friendly and to insure transparency.

As an elected official, my main priorities will be to improve and secure our election systems, make voting accessible to all Santa Fe County registered voters, protect the right to vote, ensuring no one is turned away, and provide better voter education and information. I value quality work relationships in order to run a professional office. I will ensure a full staff of well trained and professional employees in all divisions of the County Clerk's office to better serve the public.

3. What improvements or changes would you make as County Clerk?

The Clerk's office is transitioning to digital records. Creating a user-friendly customer portal with online payment and search for documents, forms, and maps, is an extension of this modernization. I plan to work with the Secretary of State's office to expand voter engagement with social media presence and outreach including letting voters know that mail-in ballots were received, polling place wait times, and voting reminders. I plan to balance faster election results while retaining accuracy.

As the new County Clerk I would meet with staff individually and discuss any issues or concerns they have within the department. I would also evaluate the day to day operations of staff, staff concerns or processes prior to making changes if possible within Santa Fe County policies and State law. If changes are needed I along with my administrative staff would implement a 30, 60 and 90 day plan to address any issues. I would work closely with the Citizens of Santa Fe County, County commissioner.

I would form strategic partnerships throughout our community, that focused on increasing the opportunities for providing enhanced voter education and engagement, as a method of impacting overall voter turnout. I would evaluate our voting processes, to ensure the elimination of voting barriers in relation to voter mobility, language, and voting options. I would create an environment centered around the needs of every voter, as well as the public interfacing with the office for additional services.

First 100 Days Plan will present strategies, vision and goals for the Santa Fe County Clerk's Office. Audit to assess required changes in the Record Division and Bureau of Election Division. Greater protection against election abuse. Community outreach social media, district meeting, and seminars. Voting is Quality of Life!

While employed, I saw the need to update our aging warehouse which is insufficient to hold classes, training or meetings. Technicians were unable to comfortably and safely make repairs to voting machines due to lack of space, and the warehouse lacks proper temperature control required for the storage of our voting machines. I will establish a 5A class county election warehouse. This facility would serve as a secure training and storage facility for the voting machines and software.

SANTA FE COUNTY TREASURER

Four-year term. Must be at least 18 years of age and a resident of the county from which elected. The Treasurer is responsible for collecting property taxes in Santa Fe County and for the supervision and investment of funds.

The League asked:

1. How do your abilities, experience and education prepare you for this office?



Jennifer Manzanares (Democrat)

As the current Chief Deputy Treasurer, I have been fortunate to learn the various functions of the Treasurer's Office hands on. The office serves as the Counties bank, therefore I have become knowledgeable about State of NM Statutes and laws that drive the various aspects of serving the customers of the County. I have learned the property tax collection processes, county investment portfolio process, and the daily operations in the office. My experience the last year has prepared me to serve.



Lucinda Marker (Democrat)

My twenty-year professional career in investments, financial advisement and client relations covers a wide spectrum, from being responsible for making sound investment decisions, preparing detailed, clear and informative financial reporting, and communicating effectively with clients and investors from a diverse range of sophistication levels. However, no experience trained me better for life than my first job out of college as a public high school teacher. There, I learned invaluable skills.



Robert Rubin (Democrat)

Abilities Bilingual strong work ethic Education College of Santa Fe Highland University Experience Property Tax Specialist help county treasurer state of NM in collections Property Tax Division compiled extensive research information on delinquent tax accounts trained and supervised employees in title work Santa Fe County Treasure prepared financial reports monthly reconciling bank statements investing public funds short and long term distributing funds to different government agencies

2. What are your highest priorities for the County Treasurer's office?

My highest priorities for the County Treasurer's office is to continue the customer service practices like the Property Tax Outreach program, expand automated services for the customer to make payments more feasible, work with other County departments to improve customer service overall. Having served my community for over 20 years as a public servant, I plan on continuous quality improvement, and professional development for staff to serve the customer at the highest level possible.

My highest priority is that the office functions to improve, sustain and protect the quality of life for all Santa Fe County residents. We are living through unprecedented times. It is imperative that the treasurer's office be accountable and available to our community, and supports citizens as they navigate through financial stress. Clear communication, collaboration and cohesive effort within the office and the county are of utmost importance to keep our services and systems running smoothly.

introduce a Senior Citizen exemption to help seniors requirements age 65 and live in primary residence need legislative approval and governor signature the only exemptions available are a head of household their also a veteran exemption Making sure that all taxpayer are well informed of all changes and exemptions the the can apply for

3. What improvements or changes would you make as County Treasurer?

As the County Treasurer I would make improvements in the following areas: Improve on line processes to further serve the customer, continue to work with Investment committee on prudent investment policies especially with the fast changing economy, establish ways to work with other County departments to streamline practices, and ongoing professional staff development.

Provide complete transparency for taxpayers. Easy access to detailed investment information readily available to track performance and disbursement of funds. Current information, including any changes in the status of property tax payments, should be communicated clearly and promptly to all taxpayers, especially in response to a crisis like the one we face today. Modernize systems. Development of a financial literacy program to be available to all. Financial literacy is key to community progress.

Have an open door policy Look into better security Improve on-line payment Look into software that would make it easier for the treasurers staff title companies and most importantly to our taxpayers

SANTA FE COUNTY COMMISSION DISTRICT 2

Four-year term. Must be at least 18 years of age and a resident of the district from which elected. The person in this office, together with other members of the County Commission is responsible for County government budget, County ordinances and resolutions, and zoning and business regulation in unincorporated areas, and sets policy for the operations of County government. Districts 2, 4 and 5 are on the ballot in 2020.

The League asked:

1. How do your abilities, experience and education qualify you for this office?



Anna Hansen (Democrat)

Commissioner Hansen has had roads paved, repaired and maintained through out the district, secured funding for Agua Fria's wastewater sewer project, supported and protected the Agua Mutual Domestic water system and has created partnerships to address the health care and drug addiction needs in District 2 and throughout the county. She has passed more than thirty-eight progressive resolutions to solve critical issues within District 2 and countless protections for our land, water, and air.

2. Name one of the biggest problems facing Santa Fe County today and explain how you would deal with it.

Commissioner Hansen has long fought for comprehensive cleanup of radioactive and hazardous waste at Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL). She has challenged the Department of Energy, the National Nuclear Security Administration, and LANL as they reduce protections for workers, the public, and the environment. Cleanup of LANL's toxic dumps will create jobs and protect Santa Fe County regional drinking water, residents and resources by making sure that legacy waste is removed from the ground.

3. What would you do as a Commissioner to increase openness and transparency in County government?

Commissioner Hansen understands that transparency and communication are critical to good government. She has responded to your concerns with public outreach, E-newsletters, town halls, community forums, and continues to meet with many HOAs on a regular schedule throughout District 2. Now with the COVID-19 we need to continue to improve our digital meeting platforms and find new and inventive way to reach as many of our constituents as possible so that they can take part in the process.

SANTA FE COUNTY COMMISSION DISTRICT 4

No responses received from all candidates: Anna Hamilton (Democrat)

SANTA FE COUNTY COMMISSION DISTRICT 5

The League asked:

1. How do your abilities, experience and education qualify you for this office?



Floyd Trujillo (Democrat)

It has been my privilege to serve on the Governing Board of a Public charter school for more than 20 years. This has allowed me to learn the skills necessary to lead an organization that serves the public, as well as to serve as an accountable financial steward of public funds. My experience with oversight of an Executive director of a school of over 500 students, strategic planning, and collaboration with external organizations has allowed me to have a positive impact on my community.



Hank Hughes (Democrat)

I have been the executive director of the New Mexico Coalition to End Homelessness since 2001 and have experience supervising a staff of 20, working with state and local governments, managing a \$1.7 million budget, developing affordable housing, and bringing diverse groups together to solve problems. I have a Master of Engineering Degree and worked for 5 years as a Water Resources Specialist at Cornell University where I helped communities prevent or alleviate groundwater contamination.

2. Name one of the biggest problems facing Santa Fe County today and explain how you would deal with it.

The current health crisis is clearly the biggest issue facing Santa Fe County-it will require strong leadership to ensure a plan for both the health of Santa Feans, as well as their economic future. I will collaborate with City, State, and Federal agencies to make sure that we are using all available resources. In addition I will reach out to private entities to ensure that they have the resources to continue to serve our constituents, and that critical infrastructure projects are completed.

We need to meet all of Santa Fe County's energy needs with renewable energy quickly, and we will need to get our economy restarted after COVID-19. I would work to put solar panels on all County buildings. I would institute incentives for builders to put solar panels on all new structures, and I would start a small grants program to help low income home owners add solar panels. I would work with PNM to develop more large scale wind, solar, and energy storage projects to serve Santa Fe County.

3. What would you do as a Commissioner to increase openness and transparency in County government?

Having served on several public boards, I have more than 20 years of experience in open government - not only in compliance with New Mexico's open government laws, but with implementation of the "spirit" of these laws as well. As President of a public charter school I was at the forefront of creating practices and protocols which encouraged wide-spread public participation in informative decision making. I firmly believe that allowing constituents to participate is key to positive outcomes.

I would hold monthly town hall meetings for constituents, and send regular email newsletters about important issues. I would make draft minutes of meetings available as soon as they are filed with the Clerk, and have the County do a better job of posting meeting times for public meetings, locations and agendas on the County website. I would broadcast more public meetings. I would make sure the Commission holds public hearings on important issues at convenient times such as right after work.