

Candidate's Name Tracy Perry

1. What have you done in the past that demonstrates your progressive values? Please elaborate on your past efforts on issues such as defending civil liberties; promoting equal opportunity; protecting our health, safety and the environment; enacting anti-discrimination laws; diminishing wealth disparity; or more generally, acting to protect those that cannot protect themselves, including future generations.

As a single mom I have previously experienced the challenges of financial insecurity faced by so many in our area. A cancer diagnosis almost ended my life and left my family in a difficult financial situation that has taken years to recover from. I am grateful for the opportunities that have allowed me to move up to a CEO of one of the largest companies in Southern NM. I moved up into this position by finding unique ways to expand healthcare access while helping create over 100 new jobs in our area. I have spent my entire professional career fighting for the rights of the disabled, the disadvantaged, and the working class in NM. I have been able to bring 12 million in new and recurring funding to get over 500 individuals off a 13-year waiting list. I also worked with the Governor to create a supports waiver for the other 5k on the waiting list that will go into effect July 2020. As your State Senator I will use my experience and passion to improve the lives of everyone in our area.

I will use my professional experience to ensure government is fully supporting the expansion of quality healthcare while eliminating the unnecessary regulations that hinders healthcare expansion in NM. I will continue my work solving the chronic shortage of healthcare professionals in this area by introducing legislation that will incentivize health care practitioners to remain in NM for a minimum of 10 years after graduation. I will ensure the archaic NM laws that sought to make criminalize abortion are removed and never used to sentence women to long prison terms in the event of Roe vs Wade is overturned. The change needed to erase the barbaric laws may rest on how the voters in this political primary vote.

2. The Four Corners region and the southeastern part of the state rely heavily on fossil fuel extraction and processing to employ thousands of New Mexicans. In the near term, what concrete steps would you take in the New Mexico legislature to address the climate emergency while considering the positive financial benefits of the New Mexico oil and gas industry to our economy and our state budget revenues? In the longer term, do you have a plan for the state transitioning from an oil and gas economy to a renewable energy economy? Please describe.

Combatting climate change should be a top priority of the legislature. With so much instability in D.C, it is critical that New Mexico becomes a leader on this issue and finds alternative ways to bring revenue streams into the State. We need a comprehensive approach to leading New Mexico into the future – I'll fight for policies including:

- Join the U.S. Climate Alliance, affirming New Mexico's commitment to the Paris Agreement.
- Build on the recently enacted Energy Transition Act and adopt the nation's most ambitious energy efficiency standards.
- Establish stringent methane emission standards to reduce harmful pollution and prevent waste.
- Invest in zero-emission vehicles and increase public transportation options.
- Support the creation a Climate Justice Task Force.
- Create a Carbon Farming Task Force to identify opportunities to increase carbon sequestration in the soil while increasing agricultural yields.

- Improve Groundwater Management and promote water conservation

3. What else would you do as a legislator to reduce climate change or mitigate its effects?

The dangers of climate change are becoming more pressing by the moment. Our children and grandchildren will live with the choices we make today. We must expedite our move towards a green economy while finding alternatives to our current financial dependence on natural resources. NM has the climate and open space that are ideal for both solar and wind production that will create high paying sustainable jobs of tomorrow. I will fully support any legislation, deregulation, incentives, or new ideas that move us into this green economy.

4. Economic dynamism and wealth creation has concentrated in urban areas, while rural areas and marginalized communities have largely been left behind. New Mexico is one of the least densely populated states in the nation. Many of its residents do not have access to jobs, health care or the internet. As a New Mexico state legislator, what will you do to enhance broadly-distributed economic development and wealth creation in rural and marginalized communities?

As the CEO of Direct Therapy Services, I have helped create hundreds of jobs in the private sector. We have been able to build a thriving company while paying our employees over the State minimum wage. We have done this by securing funding, providing top-notch services to patients, and taking a co-operative approach with our employees. I will take that experience to work with small business owners in the region and across the State to make sure that the lifeblood of our economy – small businesses – have the resources they need to thrive.

Our State deserves better than what we've been given in the past. It's time we invest in ourselves, and our natural resources. Specifically, I will support:

- Incentives and subsidies for agricultural projects throughout New Mexico.
- Expanded use of natural resources, including wind and solar.
- A living wage of \$15/hour for all employees.
- Increased Broadband capacities for local areas
- Tuition-free college and medical school that incentivizes our best and brightest to stay in NM after they graduate
- Incentives for projects that attract tourism and revenue, including film.
- A publicly owned State Bank in New Mexico.

5. The election of the Senate president pro tem is of critical importance as the pro tem selects all the members of the Committees' Committee, which then makes all committee and committee chair assignments. For at least the last 10 years, a bloc of conservative Senate Democrats have ignored the pro tem preference of the Democratic Caucus and voted with all the GOP senators to elect a conservative Democrat to serve as pro tem. This has resulted in Senate Committees carefully organized to stop progressive legislation. If elected, would you commit to voting for the pro tem candidate chosen by the Democratic caucus and not voting with a coalition of Republicans and conservative Democrats?

There are a few key reasons I am running including women's access to healthcare and climate change. However, I understand that I am running to replace a seat currently held by the Senate Pro-Tempore. We will never achieve progressive policies with the current make-up of the Senate. If

we do not get it done this year, I fear that the next 4 years could see more obstruction than ever. I absolutely will support the democratic caucus. I the Senate should do the job they were elected to do and not block bills and let every bill be heard and voted on.

6. Indicate your stance on each of these issues on a 1-to-5 scale, with 1 for strong support and 5 for strong opposition. You may elaborate on any of these issues if you wish.

- __1__ \$15 minimum wage
- __1__ Assault weapons ban
- __1__ Community Solar Act
- __1__ Electric vehicle tax credit
- __1__ Health Security Act
- __2__ Independent redistricting commission
- __1__ Protection of a woman's right to choose
- __1__ Significant increase in fines for oil spills
- __1__ Significant increase in royalty rates on new oil leases
- __1__ Significant reduction of methane emissions from oil and gas production operations
- __2__ Transition away from regressive taxation