

Candidate's Name Jodilynn Ortiz

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.

I have worked hard not just in my professional life, but also volunteer life to always fight for equity. I am a business consultant that works with many Pueblo run businesses. I help get started and going. I believe as New Mexicans we all have the right to equal opportunities. I have also been involved in my community as an activist and volunteer, and I am currently the elected Secretary for the Bernalillo Public Schools. I ran for this seat previously, but lost in the Primary to the current State Senator, John Sapien. I ran on progressive values and giving everyone in the District access to services such as healthcare, education, business development.

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.

Yes, I believe that as a State we need to diversify our resources and not rely on Oil and Gas. I am a supporter of transitioning from oil and gas to other renewables such as wind or solar. I also believe that we need to invest in educating the labor work force to transition professionally, and open up opportunities for our students to explore careers in renewable energy.

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

I believe we are in a climate crisis and our rapid action will make all the difference. As I said before, we need to diversify our economy and stop relying so much on oil, and move to renewable sources.

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?

Our State does have a big urban and rural divide. I plan to encourage technical schools and improve access to basic services such as broadband internet, as well as work with other legislators to improve infrastructure and create jobs.

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?

Yes I absolutely would support a pro tem chosen by the Democratic Caucus. I believe that the block of conservative Senate Democrats are stopping a lot of the progress in New Mexico, and we need to be able to move forward and elect leadership within our own leadership that will support progress.

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
- ___1___ 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
- ___1___ Transition away from regressive taxation