



Republican Party of Bernalillo County

What Republicans Will Accomplish When Elected

2026 Issues

New Mexico is not a poor state. New Mexico is a poorly run state. Republicans offer a clear, accountable alternative: lower costs, safer communities, accessible care, stronger families, better schools, secure elections, reliable water and energy, and a government that proves results for taxpayers.

Across every issue, the standard is the same: protect what families cannot protect alone, remove barriers that hold New Mexicans back, and spend public money only where it delivers measurable results.

The following expanded points match the one-page message and the short impact statements.

1 – Healthcare --Expand access to affordable care close to home, protect providers and patients, treat behavioral health as healthcare, use technology wisely and oppose government-run plans that reduces choice.

- Healthcare should fit everyday life. New Mexicans need access to doctors, nurses, technicians, hospitals, and behavioral health care when and where they need it. Families should be free to choose quality care that meets their needs, and New Mexico should provide a real safety net for those who cannot afford that choice.
- Protect delivery systems like UNMH and Presbyterian.
- Treat behavioral health as healthcare.
- Protect doctors, nurses, technicians, hospitals, and patients to improve healthcare and drive a prosperous economy.
- End excessive defensive medicine practices.

- Get trial lawyers out of healthcare to bring doctors back to New Mexico.
 - Cap attorney fees for medical malpractice cases.
 - End punitive damages on all medical malpractice cases.
 - Institute “loser pays” all legal fees and costs in medical malpractice litigation.
 - End venue shopping.
- Streamline healthcare oversight in New Mexico including the Healthcare Authority and other entities that create more red tape instead of better access to healthcare.

2 – Affordability –Lower everyday costs, help seniors keep their homes, make homeownership attainable for your families, protect retirement promises and end tax policies that punish work, saving and small businesses.

- End gross receipt tax on medical services, equipment, and devices.
- Eliminate state income tax on overtime, tips, and Social Security. (The NM Democrat Legislators forced continued tax collection of these taxes that are now exempted by Federal Legislation in forty-five states.)
- Use \$1 billion in one-time money to create an innovative New Mexico Mortgage Finance Authority down-payment assistance program of up to \$30,000 for New Mexico families age 40 and younger, structured as a non-interest-bearing loan repaid when the home is sold.
- Make primary-residence mortgage payments fully deductible from New Mexico taxation to help working families build stability through ownership.
- Encourage long-term savings and investment accounts for children.
- End property tax on the primary residence of any New Mexican age 75 or older so seniors can afford to stay in their homes.
- Ensure the financial viability of ERB and PERA.
- Require New Mexico ERB and PERA retiree cost-of-living adjustments to match or exceed Social Security COLA.

3 - Public Safety – Support law enforcement, protect victims, support treatment that works, end catch-and-release for repeat offenders, and hold fentanyl traffickers accountable.

- Fentanyl is destroying families and communities. Protect victims and hold traffickers accountable. Trafficking of fentanyl should be prosecuted and punished as a first-degree felony.
- Support law enforcement.
- Support treatment that works.
- Repeal catch-and-release policies that put repeat offenders back on the street.
- Require a minimum 10-day detention, pretrial, for anyone arrested and charged three times within one year. (Oscar rules and Arnold tool included in binder)

4 - Child Well-Being and CYFD Reform – Put child safety first, fix CYFD, protect children from bureaucratic failure, and build a real safety net for young adults leaving state care.

- No children sleeping in offices or dropped at a border – ever.
- CYFD must put a child's safety and well-being first. No process, policy goal, or bureaucratic preference should come before protecting a child from harm.
- Reunification with family cannot outweigh the best interests and safety of the child.
- Establish a safety net for 18-year-olds upon release from CYFD.

5 – Education – Make reading the first priority, support parents as partners, restore accountability, and let education dollars follow the child.

- Education rests on a three-legged stool: **child, parent, and teacher**. Each has a role, and no one can succeed alone.

- Education dollars should follow the child to the setting that best serves that child: public, private, charter, or homeschool. Empowering families strengthens every school by forcing the system to focus on student success. Re-read Article 12 Section One of the New Mexico Constitution.
- Make reading and phonics the top education priority in K – 3rd grade.
- Fully fund certified reading coaches K – 3rd grade. Supplement with qualified retired teachers and volunteers to help.
- Encourage parents to commit 30 minutes per day to help K-3rd grade children read.
- Coordinate a social network of volunteer reading coaches to assist parents and grandparents.
- Meet each child where he or she is. Children learn best when instruction matches their strengths, needs, and readiness.
- Apathy can become a generational trap. Schools, families, and communities must work together to restore the expectation that every child can learn.
- Teach that failure is feedback and not the finish line.
- Budget and provide for childcare at schools during parent teacher conferences.
- All students must pass the citizenship test to earn a high school diploma.
- Additional Issues
 - Prohibit educational “Collective Bargaining Contracts” from defining and implementing curriculum.
 - Principals must be the instructional leaders of their schools.
 - APS is spending \$36,000 per student without accountable outcomes. That is more expensive than any private school in Albuquerque.
 - APS has lost over 30,000 students over the last ten years. APS must reexamine student enrollment and resource allocations.

- Use technology to assist with student assessment.
- Ensure basic infrastructure is functional in all schools such as air conditioning, heating, fully functioning bathrooms with toilet paper, soap and towels, and safe drinking water from water fountains.

6 - Election Integrity – Require voter photo ID, fix registration errors, clean voter rolls lawfully, and guarantee transparent citizen observation of every election process.

- Demand Photo ID at the polls along with an audible statement of name, address, and year of birth.
- Repeal Automatic Voter Registration at MVD or fix known errors regarding citizenship at MVD voter registration.
- Implement multi-factor authentication and other basic security features to the voter registration rolls through NMVote.org.
- Give County Clerks authority to use the Department of Homeland Security “SAV” database to help clean voter rolls.
- Demand transparency and citizen observation during all election processes.

7 - Water, Energy, and Economy – Treat water reliability, affordable energy, data centers, quantum computing, artificial intelligence, and small business innovation as economic and national security priorities.

- Make drinking-water reliability, safety, and conservation the priority.
- Develop practical water innovation programs for agriculture, industry, and growing communities.
- Tell Congress: The West is thirsty. Build a national water strategy that reduces flooding where water is abundant, expands desalination, and supports responsible growth across the Sunbelt Southwest.

- Plan now for data centers, quantum computing, artificial intelligence, reliable energy, and small business innovation without sacrificing water security.
 - Mississippi River-is the only river system in the US with excess water. Other east coast rivers have excess water. The Corps of Army Engineers has drafted proposals and plans to move water from the Mississippi to the Rio Grande River above Albuquerque. That plan moves most of the water uphill. There are other more efficient strategies. We need water in the Rio Grande River and the Pecos River.
- Invest in small modular nuclear reactors to power the data centers and reduce the need for excessive water use.
- Water is LIFE. The water crisis in New Mexico is at a critical point. New Mexico must act now!

8 - Government Accountability – Demand transparency, effective public services, measurable results, and consequences when agencies fail.

- Transparency is not optional. New Mexicans deserve to see how decisions are made, where money is spent, whether programs deliver results, and who is responsible when agencies fail.

Additional issues also matter to New Mexico families, taxpayers, and communities. The following topics should be addressed with the same standard: clear priorities, accountable government, and measurable results.

DACA, Immigration, and Citizenship

DACA children, now adults, were brought here through no fault of their own. Establish a pathway to permanent residency for those who meet clear standards, contribute to their communities, and commit to the responsibilities of citizenship.

Environment

- Pursue effective forest management to reduce wildfires and promote healthy forests.
 - New Mexico's logging industry was all but destroyed by misguided efforts to protect the spotted owl that nests in only a few areas of our State. Logging should be permitted outside the spotted owl nesting period.

Local and State Government

- New Mexico deserves competent government, basic public safety, and transparent use of taxpayer dollars. Failures should be named, measured, and corrected, with clear accountability for agencies and elected officials.
- Demand that all New Mexico Agencies prioritize serving New Mexicans including:
 - A live human to answer the phone.
 - All messages must be returned within 24 hours.
 - All websites that require citizen interaction must be evaluated, corrected, and updated for usability at least every 90 days. State agencies should answer the phone, return messages promptly,

and make online services work for the people who depend on them.

Title IX

- Support coed sports and activities where appropriate.
- No boys in girls' bathrooms or locker rooms. No girls in boys' bathrooms or locker rooms.
- In single sex competitions, no opposite sex competitors, or transgender competitors.

Universal Day Care

Universal day care should not become another expensive program that promises help while limiting family choice. New Mexico should support working parents by expanding flexible childcare options, removing barriers for providers, and directing assistance to families instead of building another top-down system.