

Common Cause New Mexico

2016 Ethics and Campaign Finance Reform Candidate Questionnaire

Karen Canaday Whitlock

<p>1. In addition to ruling that corporations and unions have the right to make unlimited political contributions, the 2010 <i>Citizens United</i> opinion also ruled that requiring disclosure of the sources of contributions and expenditures in political campaigns is necessary.</p> <p>Do you support bringing our state’s Campaign Reporting Act up to date by requiring independent political groups to report who their donors are and how their money is spent on campaigns?</p>	Yes	No
	X	

<p>2. It is increasingly difficult for members of the public or media to determine which individuals or groups are influencing legislative decisions that impact various aspects of our daily life here in New Mexico.</p> <p>Do you support improving the transparency of our lobbying reporting system to ensure consistency, provide for enforcement, and increase the availability of detailed reports from organizations and the individuals who are lobbying elected officials?</p>	Yes	No
	X	

<p>3. A December 2016 poll by Common Cause New Mexico demonstrated that 85% percent of New Mexicans believe corruption is a serious or very serious problem in our state and support the creation of an independent ethics commission.</p> <p>Would you support the creation of an independent commission to oversee and investigate public officials (both in the legislature and in executive offices) and public employees in New Mexico?</p>	Yes	No
	X	

<p>4. In New Mexico, voluntary public campaign financing is available for qualified candidates for the Public Regulation Commission, appellate judgeships, as well as some municipal races.</p> <p>Do you support expanding such a system to include races for statewide executive positions such as governor, attorney general, and secretary of state? What about State Senate or State House?</p>	Yes	No
	X	

<p>5. In the 2016 legislative session, a bill was introduced to compel the online publication of capital outlay projects. These projects are currently undisclosed unless a list of projects is specifically requested by a legislator and approved by the legislative council to be released.</p>	Yes	No
	X	

<p>Would you support reforming the capital outlay system so that it is not only more transparent, but also uses a merit-based process to plan and prioritize projects?</p>		
<p>6. The drawing of electoral districts is not transparent and all too often, there is no public participation. The resulting districts can often serve the political interests of the people who draw them, rather than the interests of the people being represented.</p> <p>Would you support the creation of an independent commission to establish written criteria for re-drawing district boundaries and require a fair and transparent process for conducting redistricting?</p>	X	No

Please use this space below to further explain any of your answers above:

Common Cause New Mexico

2016 Ethics and Campaign Finance Reform Candidate Questionnaire

Daymon Ely

<p>1. In addition to ruling that corporations and unions have the right to make unlimited political contributions, the 2010 <i>Citizens United</i> opinion also ruled that requiring disclosure of the sources of contributions and expenditures in political campaigns is necessary.</p> <p>Do you support bringing our state’s Campaign Reporting Act up to date by requiring independent political groups to report who their donors are and how their money is spent on campaigns?</p>	<p>Yes X</p>	<p>No</p>
<p>2. It is increasingly difficult for members of the public or media to determine which individuals or groups are influencing legislative decisions that impact various aspects of our daily life here in New Mexico.</p> <p>Do you support improving the transparency of our lobbying reporting system to ensure consistency, provide for enforcement, and increase the availability of detailed reports from organizations and the individuals who are lobbying elected officials?</p>	<p>Yes X</p>	<p>No</p>
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<p>5. In the 2016 legislative session, a bill was introduced to compel the online publication of capital outlay projects. These projects are currently undisclosed unless a list of projects is specifically requested by a legislator and approved by the</p>	<p>Yes X</p>	<p>No</p>

<p>legislative council to be released.</p> <p>Would you support reforming the capital outlay system so that it is not only more transparent, but also uses a merit-based process to plan and prioritize projects?</p>		
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Common Cause New Mexico

2016 Ethics and Campaign Finance Reform Candidate Questionnaire

Joanne Ferrary

Candidate for HD37

<p>1. In addition to ruling that corporations and unions have the right to make unlimited political contributions, the 2010 <i>Citizens United</i> opinion also ruled that requiring disclosure of the sources of contributions and expenditures in political campaigns is necessary.</p> <p>Do you support bringing our state’s Campaign Reporting Act up to date by requiring independent political groups to report who their donors are and how their money is spent on campaigns?</p>	Yes X	No
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<p>4. In New Mexico, voluntary public campaign financing is available for qualified candidates for the Public Regulation Commission, appellate judgeships, as well as some municipal races.</p> <p>Do you support expanding such a system to include races for statewide executive positions such as governor, attorney general, and secretary of state? What about State Senate or State House?</p>	Yes X	No
<p>5. In the 2016 legislative session, a bill was introduced to compel the online publication of capital outlay projects. These projects are currently undisclosed unless a list of projects is specifically requested by a legislator and approved by the</p>	Yes X	No

<p>legislative council to be released.</p> <p>Would you support reforming the capital outlay system so that it is not only more transparent, but also uses a merit-based process to plan and prioritize projects?</p>		
<p>6. The drawing of electoral districts is not transparent and all too often, there is no public participation. The resulting districts can often serve the political interests of the people who draw them, rather than the interests of the people being represented.</p> <p>Would you support the creation of an independent commission to establish written criteria for re-drawing district boundaries and require a fair and transparent process for conducting redistricting?</p>	X	

Please use this space below to further explain any of your answers above:

#5. I believe the transparency of the capital outlay is important and an explanation of the importance of the project to the community is needed. I also think that prioritizing projects for their need on a statewide basis would help bring more funding to certain projects that might not otherwise be possible. I don't think our capital outlay funds in general have been abused for special interests, as I have seen some great collective uses of Legislators' funds in Southern NM. The prioritization of projects would help decrease misuse of funds, but there are also dire needs that Legislator discretion could bring funding that might not otherwise be available.

Common Cause New Mexico

2016 Ethics and Campaign Finance Reform Candidate Questionnaire

Arturo Fierro

State Rep. Dist. 7

<p>1. In addition to ruling that corporations and unions have the right to make unlimited political contributions, the 2010 <i>Citizens United</i> opinion also ruled that requiring disclosure of the sources of contributions and expenditures in political campaigns is necessary.</p> <p>Do you support bringing our state’s Campaign Reporting Act up to date by requiring independent political groups to report who their donors are and how their money is spent on campaigns?</p>	<p>Yes X</p>	<p>No</p>
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<p>4. In New Mexico, voluntary public campaign financing is available for qualified candidates for the Public Regulation Commission, appellate judgeships, as well as some municipal races.</p> <p>Do you support expanding such a system to include races for statewide executive positions such as governor, attorney general, and secretary of state? What about State Senate or State House?</p>	<p>Yes X</p>	<p>No</p>
<p>5. In the 2016 legislative session, a bill was introduced to compel the online publication of capital outlay projects. These projects are currently undisclosed unless a list of projects is specifically requested by a legislator and approved by the legislative council to be released.</p> <p>Would you support reforming the capital outlay system so that it is not only more transparent, but also uses a merit-based process to plan and prioritize projects?</p>	<p>Yes X</p>	<p>No</p>

<p>6. The drawing of electoral districts is not transparent and all too often, there is no public participation. The resulting districts can often serve the political interests of the people who draw them, rather than the interests of the people being represented.</p> <p>Would you support the creation of an independent commission to establish written criteria for re-drawing district boundaries and require a fair and transparent process for conducting redistricting?</p>	X	
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Please use this space below to further explain any of your answers above:

Common Cause New Mexico

2016 Ethics and Campaign Finance Reform Candidate Questionnaire

Miguel Garcia

House Dist 14

<p>1. In addition to ruling that corporations and unions have the right to make unlimited political contributions, the 2010 <i>Citizens United</i> opinion also ruled that requiring disclosure of the sources of contributions and expenditures in political campaigns is necessary.</p> <p>Do you support bringing our state’s Campaign Reporting Act up to date by requiring independent political groups to report who their donors are and how their money is spent on campaigns?</p>	Yes	No
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<p>2. It is increasingly difficult for members of the public or media to determine which individuals or groups are influencing legislative decisions that impact various aspects of our daily life here in New Mexico.</p> <p>Do you support improving the transparency of our lobbying reporting system to ensure consistency, provide for enforcement, and increase the availability of detailed reports from organizations and the individuals who are lobbying elected officials?</p>	Yes	No
	XX	

<p>3. A December 2016 poll by Common Cause New Mexico demonstrated that 85% percent of New Mexicans believe corruption is a serious or very serious problem in our state and support the creation of an independent ethics commission.</p> <p>Would you support the creation of an independent commission to oversee and investigate public officials (both in the legislature and in executive offices) and public employees in New Mexico?</p>	Yes	No
	XX	

<p>4. In New Mexico, voluntary public campaign financing is available for qualified candidates for the Public Regulation Commission, appellate judgeships, as well as some municipal races.</p> <p>Do you support expanding such a system to include races for statewide executive positions such as governor, attorney general, and secretary of state? What about State Senate or State House?</p>	Yes	No
	XX	

<p>5. In the 2016 legislative session, a bill was introduced to compel the online publication of capital outlay projects. These projects are currently undisclosed unless a list of projects is specifically requested by a legislator and approved by the legislative council to be released.</p>	Yes	No

Would you support reforming the capital outlay system so that it is not only more transparent, but also uses a merit-based process to plan and prioritize projects?		
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Please use this space below to further explain any of your answers above:

Question #5 is too simplistic. I did not give a yes/no answer. It leans toward the yellow journalistic reporting approach that all legislators have something devious to hide regarding how we prioritize our capital projects. For those of us who represent low income, economically challenged, and predominately Hispanic or Native American districts, our capital outlay projects are bare bone necessities and a God send of which such projects would never get funded any other way. Our efforts to prioritize bare bone projects are heart wrenching when we don't have enough to go around. The yellow journalistic media does not care about this reality only the lie that we are all "pork barrel hooligans" on the *movida*.

On Question #4, see my introduction of HB 205 (2015) and HB 208 (2016). Although public financing of legislative races is a priority question on your survey, it is not something your organization gives much credence.

On Question #2, see my introduction of HB 257 in the 2015 Session which prohibited campaign contributions by contractors to ALL statewide races. Again, it is a priority question on your survey but not something your organization gives much credence.

State Representative Miguel P García, District 14

Common Cause New Mexico

2016 Ethics and Campaign Finance Reform Candidate Questionnaire

Stephanie Garcia Richard

House Dist. 43

<p>1. In addition to ruling that corporations and unions have the right to make unlimited political contributions, the 2010 <i>Citizens United</i> opinion also ruled that requiring disclosure of the sources of contributions and expenditures in political campaigns is necessary.</p> <p>Do you support bringing our state’s Campaign Reporting Act up to date by requiring independent political groups to report who their donors are and how their money is spent on campaigns?</p>	<p>Yes X</p>	<p>No</p>
<p>2. It is increasingly difficult for members of the public or media to determine which individuals or groups are influencing legislative decisions that impact various aspects of our daily life here in New Mexico.</p> <p>Do you support improving the transparency of our lobbying reporting system to ensure consistency, provide for enforcement, and increase the availability of detailed reports from organizations and the individuals who are lobbying elected officials?</p>	<p>Yes X</p>	<p>No</p>
<p>3. A December 2016 poll by Common Cause New Mexico demonstrated that 85% percent of New Mexicans believe corruption is a serious or very serious problem in our state and support the creation of an independent ethics commission.</p> <p>Would you support the creation of an independent commission to oversee and investigate public officials (both in the legislature and in executive offices) and public employees in New Mexico?</p>	<p>Yes X</p>	<p>No</p>
<p>4. In New Mexico, voluntary public campaign financing is available for qualified candidates for the Public Regulation Commission, appellate judgeships, as well as some municipal races.</p> <p>Do you support expanding such a system to include races for statewide executive positions such as governor, attorney general, and secretary of state? What about State Senate or State House?</p>	<p>Yes X</p>	<p>No</p>
<p>5. In the 2016 legislative session, a bill was introduced to compel the online publication of capital outlay projects. These projects are currently undisclosed unless a list of projects is specifically requested by a legislator and approved by the legislative council to be released.</p>	<p>Yes X</p>	<p>No</p>

Would you support reforming the capital outlay system so that it is not only more transparent, but also uses a merit-based process to plan and prioritize projects?		
<p>6. The drawing of electoral districts is not transparent and all too often, there is no public participation. The resulting districts can often serve the political interests of the people who draw them, rather than the interests of the people being represented.</p> <p>Would you support the creation of an independent commission to establish written criteria for re-drawing district boundaries and require a fair and transparent process for conducting redistricting?</p>	X	

Please use this space below to further explain any of your answers above:

#5. While I support comprehensive capital outlay reform and disclosure (please see the New Mexico In Depth coverage of this issue which listed my capital outlay projects), I would caution us to retain the local voice in decision-making and prioritizing of projects. Very often, smaller water projects such as acequias or mutual domestic water associations desperately need capital for necessary maintenance and repair and it is my fear that they would get lost if lumped together with huge statewide projects to compete for funds.

Common Cause New Mexico

2016 Ethics and Campaign Finance Reform Candidate Questionnaire

Ray Jaramillo

<p>1. In addition to ruling that corporations and unions have the right to make unlimited political contributions, the 2010 <i>Citizens United</i> opinion also ruled that requiring disclosure of the sources of contributions and expenditures in political campaigns is necessary.</p> <p>Do you support bringing our state’s Campaign Reporting Act up to date by requiring independent political groups to report who their donors are and how their money is spent on campaigns?</p>	Yes	No
	Yes	

<p>2. It is increasingly difficult for members of the public or media to determine which individuals or groups are influencing legislative decisions that impact various aspects of our daily life here in New Mexico.</p> <p>Do you support improving the transparency of our lobbying reporting system to ensure consistency, provide for enforcement, and increase the availability of detailed reports from organizations and the individuals who are lobbying elected officials?</p>	Yes	No
	Yes	

<p>3. A December 2016 poll by Common Cause New Mexico demonstrated that 85% percent of New Mexicans believe corruption is a serious or very serious problem in our state and support the creation of an independent ethics commission.</p> <p>Would you support the creation of an independent commission to oversee and investigate public officials (both in the legislature and in executive offices) and public employees in New Mexico?</p>	Yes	No
	Yes!	

<p>4. In New Mexico, voluntary public campaign financing is available for qualified candidates for the Public Regulation Commission, appellate judgeships, as well as some municipal races.</p> <p>Do you support expanding such a system to include races for statewide executive positions such as governor, attorney general, and secretary of state? What about State Senate or State House?</p>	Yes	No
	Yes	

5. In the 2016 legislative session, a bill was introduced to compel the online	Yes	No
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<p>publication of capital outlay projects. These projects are currently undisclosed unless a list of projects is specifically requested by a legislator and approved by the legislative council to be released.</p> <p>Would you support reforming the capital outlay system so that it is not only more transparent, but also uses a merit-based process to plan and prioritize projects?</p>	Yes	
<p>6. The drawing of electoral districts is not transparent and all too often, there is no public participation. The resulting districts can often serve the political interests of the people who draw them, rather than the interests of the people being represented.</p> <p>Would you support the creation of an independent commission to establish written criteria for re-drawing district boundaries and require a fair and transparent process for conducting redistricting?</p>	Yes	

Please use this space below to further explain any of your answers above:

- 1. I think that this simple change to policy will have a great positive effect on the political system. Knowing who has an interest in getting certain candidates elected would be helpful to both voters and candidates. There are too many loopholes that allow for corruption to happen. If someone wants to give money to candidate, and it is for no other reason than wanting to support that person, there should be no reason to hide behind a group or PAC in doing so. I fully support transparency in this way.**
- 2. Yes! I would also support creating a way in which this report is up to date, and easily accessible during legislation, not after decisions are made.**
- 3. Absolutely. I followed this years' legislation on the ethics bill and I was so disappointed when it fell through. I took this as a sure sign of how toxic New Mexico's political environment has become. It's suspicious and disheartening that our politicians don't want to be accountable. I agree with most people in saying that New Mexico has a problem with corruption. We see it over and over again, and have become desensitized to the headlines. It's unacceptable. I will utilize my position to regain the confidence in New Mexico's voters by supporting any legislation that aims to increase accountability and define and enforce ethics in government.**
- 4. I would fully support expanding this option to include races for statewide executive positions such as governor, attorney general, secretary of state, State Senate and State House. One of the most challenging things in this race has been proving so-called "viability" by raising money. While I understand the importance of fundraising to an extent, I do not agree with the profound effect it has on elections and candidates. Simply put; we are taking money from the people in an effort to represent them. That seems fundamentally wrong. It takes away from focusing on the issues and makes campaigns more of a marketing game. I would also support capping the amount of money that can be spent on certain types of elections. So far, my opponents and I combined have raised almost 30k. That's an annual salary (or more) for many New Mexicans. Voluntary public funding could alleviate many of the issues associated with money and politics and I support it.**
- 5. Transparency and a concise understanding of what is being proposed is necessary and should not be optional or difficult to access.**

Common Cause New Mexico

2016 Ethics and Campaign Finance Reform Candidate Questionnaire

Ronnie Martinez

House Dist. 29

<p>1. In addition to ruling that corporations and unions have the right to make unlimited political contributions, the 2010 <i>Citizens United</i> opinion also ruled that requiring disclosure of the sources of contributions and expenditures in political campaigns is necessary.</p> <p>Do you support bringing our state’s Campaign Reporting Act up to date by requiring independent political groups to report who their donors are and how their money is spent on campaigns?</p>	Ye s	No
	X	

<p>2. It is increasingly difficult for members of the public or media to determine which individuals or groups are influencing legislative decisions that impact various aspects of our daily life here in New Mexico.</p> <p>Do you support improving the transparency of our lobbying reporting system to ensure consistency, provide for enforcement, and increase the availability of detailed reports from organizations and the individuals who are lobbying elected officials?</p>	Yes	No
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<p>3. A December 2016 poll by Common Cause New Mexico demonstrated that 85% percent of New Mexicans believe corruption is a serious or very serious problem in our state and support the creation of an independent ethics commission.</p> <p>Would you support the creation of an independent commission to oversee and investigate public officials (both in the legislature and in executive offices) and public employees in New Mexico?</p>	Ye s	No
	X	

<p>4. In New Mexico, voluntary public campaign financing is available for qualified candidates for the Public Regulation Commission, appellate judgeships, as well as some municipal races.</p> <p>Do you support expanding such a system to include races for statewide executive</p>	Ye s	No
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positions such as governor, attorney general, and secretary of state? What about State Senate or State House?		
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<p>5. In the 2016 legislative session, a bill was introduced to compel the online publication of capital outlay projects. These projects are currently undisclosed unless a list of projects is specifically requested by a legislator and approved by the legislative council to be released.</p> <p>Would you support reforming the capital outlay system so that it is not only more transparent, but also uses a merit-based process to plan and prioritize projects?</p>	<p>Ye s X</p>	<p>No</p>
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Please use this space below to further explain any of your answers above:

It is vital for our election system to provide a voice for all citizens. We can do that through better campaign finance laws that are transparent, and fair. I support the above initiatives and consider them key to an equal election system.

Common Cause New Mexico

2016 Ethics and Campaign Finance Reform Candidate Questionnaire

Angelica Rubio

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	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	

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Please use this space below to further explain any of your answers above:

1. Although I was pleased to note that House Bill 105 was signed it to law, I strongly stand with Common Cause in the belief that there remains much work to do. In my capacity as campaign manager for Kasandara Gandara, I learned first-hand the dispiriting and chaotic impact that last minute, negative and anonymous mailers can have on a campaign.
2. As noted in Common Cause’s January 2016 survey, nine-in-ten voters believe it would be a good idea to require registered lobbyists to make public the bills or issues they have been hired to advocate so that voters know who is lobbying on certain issues in New Mexico. To my mind, the people have spoken. I firmly stand on the side of these voters and the future of our fragile democracy.
3. It is interesting to note that a business-focused [study](#) also published earlier this year revealed that recent analysis conducted by professors of economics and political science ranked New Mexico as the fifth most corrupt state in the nation. It’s a development that I find shameful and alarming. As a legislator, I will not only support the creation of an independent commission, but will be among the first to voluntarily submit to its oversight and investigation.
4. As a working class woman of color, I am a strong proponent of all voluntary efforts to even the playing field when it comes to campaign financing and was both relieved and cheered to note that 58% of those participating in Common Cause’s recent study said they would be more likely to support a candidate running for office in New Mexico who strongly pushes for campaign finance reform.
5. As a legislator, I will absolutely support such reforms, given that:

- NM is the only state in which elected officials divide money for public works
- NM was recently ranked among the top five most corrupt states in the nation
- Just one in every eight capital outlay projects is actually funded. Resulting in nearly 800 million in public money sitting idle

6. As a voter as well as a prospective legislator, I strongly share Common Cause's belief that, "redistricting should level the political playing field, not tilt it toward any party or office holder. I will work hard to make this resolute vision a reality.

Common Cause New Mexico

2016 Ethics and Campaign Finance Reform Candidate Questionnaire

Tomás E. Salazar

House Dist. 70

<p>1. In addition to ruling that corporations and unions have the right to make unlimited political contributions, the 2010 <i>Citizens United</i> opinion also ruled that requiring disclosure of the sources of contributions and expenditures in political campaigns is necessary.</p> <p>Do you support bringing our state's Campaign Reporting Act up to date by requiring independent political groups to report who their donors are and how their money is spent on campaigns?</p>	Yes √	No
<p>2. It is increasingly difficult for members of the public or media to determine which individuals or groups are influencing legislative decisions that impact various aspects of our daily life here in New Mexico.</p> <p>Do you support improving the transparency of our lobbying reporting system to ensure consistency, provide for enforcement, and increase the availability of detailed reports from organizations and the individuals who are lobbying elected officials?</p>	Yes √	No
<p>3. A December 2016 poll by Common Cause New Mexico demonstrated that 85% percent of New Mexicans believe corruption is a serious or very serious problem in our state and support the creation of an independent ethics commission.</p> <p>Would you support the creation of an independent commission to oversee and investigate public officials (both in the legislature and in executive offices) and public employees in New Mexico?</p>	Yes √	No
<p>4. In New Mexico, voluntary public campaign financing is available for qualified candidates for the Public Regulation Commission, appellate judgeships, as well as some municipal races.</p> <p>Do you support expanding such a system to include races for statewide executive positions such as governor, attorney general, and secretary of state? What about State Senate or State House?</p>	Yes √	No
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<p>legislative council to be released.</p> <p>Would you support reforming the capital outlay system so that it is not only more transparent, but also uses a merit-based process to plan and prioritize projects?</p>		
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Please use this space below to further explain any of your answers above:

#5.

- ... I supported HB 173 (SB 48) – never got to debate or vote on either
- ... the details of the “merit-base” and/or the “prioritization” process would determine whether I could support

Common Cause New Mexico

2016 Ethics and Campaign Finance Reform Candidate Questionnaire

Debbie Sarinana

Candidate State Rep. Dist. 21

<p>1. In addition to ruling that corporations and unions have the right to make unlimited political contributions, the 2010 <i>Citizens United</i> opinion also ruled that requiring disclosure of the sources of contributions and expenditures in political campaigns is necessary.</p> <p>Do you support bringing our state’s Campaign Reporting Act up to date by requiring independent political groups to report who their donors are and how their money is spent on campaigns?</p>	Yes	No
	X	

<p>2. It is increasingly difficult for members of the public or media to determine which individuals or groups are influencing legislative decisions that impact various aspects of our daily life here in New Mexico.</p> <p>Do you support improving the transparency of our lobbying reporting system to ensure consistency, provide for enforcement, and increase the availability of detailed reports from organizations and the individuals who are lobbying elected officials?</p>	Yes	No
	X	

<p>3. A December 2016 poll by Common Cause New Mexico demonstrated that 85% percent of New Mexicans believe corruption is a serious or very serious problem in our state and support the creation of an independent ethics commission.</p> <p>Would you support the creation of an independent commission to oversee and investigate public officials (both in the legislature and in executive offices) and public employees in New Mexico?</p>	Yes	No
	X	

<p>4. In New Mexico, voluntary public campaign financing is available for qualified candidates for the Public Regulation Commission, appellate judgeships, as well as some municipal races.</p> <p>Do you support expanding such a system to include races for statewide executive positions such as governor, attorney general, and secretary of state? What about State Senate or State House?</p>	Yes	No
	X	

<p>5. In the 2016 legislative session, a bill was introduced to compel the online publication of capital outlay projects. These projects are currently undisclosed</p>	Yes	No
	X	

<p>unless a list of projects is specifically requested by a legislator and approved by the legislative council to be released.</p> <p>Would you support reforming the capital outlay system so that it is not only more transparent, but also uses a merit-based process to plan and prioritize projects?</p>		
<p>6. The drawing of electoral districts is not transparent and all too often, there is no public participation. The resulting districts can often serve the political interests of the people who draw them, rather than the interests of the people being represented.</p> <p>Would you support the creation of an independent commission to establish written criteria for re-drawing district boundaries and require a fair and transparent process for conducting redistricting?</p>	<p>X</p>	

Please use this space below to further explain any of your answers above:

More must be done to remove the influence of money in politics, locally, in Santa Fe and nationally. I'm a strong proponent of government transparency and believe strongly in proposals that will create better accountability and consequences for those who fail to live up to ethical standards.

Common Cause New Mexico

2016 Ethics and Campaign Finance Reform Candidate Questionnaire

Candie Sweetser

House Dist 32

1. In addition to ruling that corporations and unions have the right to make unlimited political contributions, the 2010 <i>Citizens United</i> opinion also ruled that requiring disclosure of the sources of contributions and expenditures in political campaigns is necessary. Do you support bringing our state’s Campaign Reporting Act up to date by requiring independent political groups to report who their donors are and how their money is spent on campaigns?	Yes	No
	X	

2. It is increasingly difficult for members of the public or media to determine which individuals or groups are influencing legislative decisions that impact various aspects of our daily life here in New Mexico. Do you support improving the transparency of our lobbying reporting system to ensure consistency, provide for enforcement, and increase the availability of detailed reports from organizations and the individuals who are lobbying elected officials?	Yes	No
	X	

3. A December 2016 poll by Common Cause New Mexico demonstrated that 85% percent of New Mexicans believe corruption is a serious or very serious problem in our state and support the creation of an independent ethics commission. Would you support the creation of an independent commission to oversee and investigate public officials (both in the legislature and in executive offices) and public employees in New Mexico?	Yes	No
	X	

4. In New Mexico, voluntary public campaign financing is available for qualified candidates for the Public Regulation Commission, appellate judgeships, as well as some municipal races. Do you support expanding such a system to include races for statewide executive positions such as governor, attorney general, and secretary of state? What about State Senate or State House?	Yes	No
	XX	

5. In the 2016 legislative session, a bill was introduced to compel the online publication of capital outlay projects. These projects are currently undisclosed unless a list of projects is specifically requested by a legislator and approved by the legislative council to be released.	Yes	No
	X	

Would you support reforming the capital outlay system so that it is not only more transparent, but also uses a merit-based process to plan and prioritize projects?		
<p>6. The drawing of electoral districts is not transparent and all too often, there is no public participation. The resulting districts can often serve the political interests of the people who draw them, rather than the interests of the people being represented.</p> <p>Would you support the creation of an independent commission to establish written criteria for re-drawing district boundaries and require a fair and transparent process for conducting redistricting?</p>	X	

Please use this space below to further explain any of your answers above:

I am a broadcaster, and have served on the board of the New Mexico Foundation of Open Government. I see no valid argument for any cloaked or veiled government operations. If journalists are having trouble getting information, something is wrong.

Also, I am in a district getting flooded with Republican money trying to buy this House seat. I hope they are not successful. Candidates should be able to stand on their merits, and more transparency and public funding would make that so.

I am attaching information on myself, and appreciate your support.

--Candie G. Sweetser

