

**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
--	-----	----

<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.**