# New Mexico Senate

**CAMPUS ELECTION ENGAGEMENT PROJECT** register. volunteer. vote.

THE ISSUES

**BEN RAY LUJÁN**
DEMOCRAT

**MARK RONCHETTI**
REPUBLICAN

| See Guides.vote for online guides with links and sources | Volunteer for Ben Ray Luján benraylujan.com | Volunteer for Mark Ronchetti markronchetti.com |
|---|---|---|
| **AFFORDABLE CARE ACT (ACA)** Support Affordable Care Act, also known as Obamacare? | Yes. Voted against multiple efforts to repeal ACA. "I will not allow the GOP to destroy protections for pre-existing conditions and steal insurance from millions of Americans." | No. Opposes universal health care. But has said: "We want to cover pre-existing conditions and will protect Medicaid." |
| **CAMPAIGN FINANCE** Require political ads to disclose their largest funders? | Yes. Voted for HR1 to "restore transparency in our government [and] reduce the role of dark money in politics." | No position found. |
| **CLIMATE CHANGE** Consider human-caused climate change a serious threat? | Yes. U.S. is "experiencing the devastating impacts of climate change … extreme fires, severe storms, and record drought." Voted to keep U.S. in Paris Climate Agreement. | Unclear. "Climate change is a real phenomenon that needs to be addressed." Said it wasn't causing current fires. "We can't restrict our economy when countries like China and India continue unrestricted pollution." |
| **CLIMATE CHANGE** Address as a top priority by taxing or limiting output of greenhouse gases? | Yes. Green New Deal co-sponsor. Worked on federal standard for renewable energy with low-carbon initiatives for environment, consumers and economy. | No. Opposes Green New Deal. Bills to reduce emissions empower "an unaccountable group of bureaucrats to inflict themselves on … New Mexico." |
| **CONTRACEPTION** Require health plans to cover birth control? | Yes. "I will continue working to protect reproductive freedoms for all women across New Mexico and the nation." | No position found. Supports the Hyde Amendment, which bars use of federal funds to pay for abortion. |
| **COURTS — SUPREME COURT** Support Senate voting before election on Ginsburg replacement? | Probable no. Baited Ronchetti asking him where he stood on it. But no direct stand found. See CEEP Supreme Court guide. | No position found. See CEEP Supreme Court guide. |
| **COVID-19** Support administration's response to coronavirus pandemic? | No. "The Trump administration failed to bring COVID-19 testing to scale." Opposes cut to additional unemployment benefits. | Yes. "Took the action necessary to help small businesses." Beyond testing, no national plan needed. Responsibly reopen economy. |
| **EDUCATION** Use public funding for private and/or for-profit schools? | Likely no. Voted against reauthorizing program to help low-income families pay private school tuition. | Yes. Supports public charter schools and school choice. |
| **ENVIRONMENT** Tighten or loosen environmental regulations? | Tighten. Voted to prohibit offshore drilling and protect Arctic Refuge, and mining around the Grand Canyon and Chaco Canyon. | Loosen. Opposes bans on fracking and supports leasing public land for oil and gas production. |
| **FINANCIAL REGULATION** Tighten or loosen regulation of banks and credit card companies? | Tighten. Voted against rollbacks of Dodd-Frank regulations. Voted to restore and increase authority of CFPB. | No position found. |

| ISSUES | LUJÁN (D) | RONCHETTI (R) |
|---|---|---|
| **GUN RULES** <br> Enact more restrictive legislation on guns? | Yes. Voted to require background checks for private firearms transfers. Co-sponsored Assault Weapons Ban to "get weapons of war off the streets." | No. Strong Second Amendment supporter. "A law-abiding citizen who responsibly handles their guns doesn't need the government to come knocking on their door." NRA backing. |
| **IMMIGRATION** <br> Create path to citizenship for DACA participants brought to the U.S. as children? | Yes. Voted for DREAM Act. Wants a path to citizenship for DREAMers as well as migrants and refugees as part of comprehensive immigration reform. | No position found. Opposes amnesty: "It incentivizes even more illegal immigration. … Allow them to apply in their home country and when legally approved move to the U.S." |
| **IMMIGRATION** <br> Support border walls? | No. "I've never supported the president's wall." | Yes. "President Trump is right to build this wall." |
| **IMPEACHMENT** <br> Support calling witnesses and indicting Trump on impeachment charges? | Yes. Voted for impeachment. Ignoring Trump's "abuses of power would be abdicating the oath we made to protect this country and our Constitution." | No. Says motivated to run in part because Luján "has chosen partisan politics at every turn, from impeachment to voting no on critical border funding." |
| **IRAN** <br> Oppose military attacks on Iran without congressional approval? | Yes. Voted against it. Trump put "our country in harm's way when he brought the U.S. to the brink of war with Iran." | No position found. |
| **LABOR** <br> Support expansion of union rights? | Yes. Voted for Protecting the Right to Organize Act. | Mostly no. Supports "right to work" laws that eliminate the ability of unions to mandate dues for workers they represent? |
| **LEGAL ABORTION** <br> Legal or ban? | Legal. Voted against multiple anti-abortion bills including one that would have banned abortions after 20 weeks. "I believe strongly in a woman's right to choose." | Ban. Is "strongly pro-life." Believes unborn babies "have souls, can feel emotions, and are every bit a human being." |
| **LGBTQ RIGHTS** <br> Support Equality Act protecting LGBTQ people from discrimination? | Yes. Voted for Equality Act. Wants to "ensure every person is treated with … respect no matter who they are, who they love …" | No position found. |
| **MARIJUANA** <br> Keep illegal or decriminalize? | Decriminalize. Co-sponsored bill to federally decriminalize. Pushed bill to remove marijuana as a deportable offense. | No position found. |
| **MINIMUM WAGE** <br> Raise federal hourly minimum wage above current $7.25? | Yes. Voted for Raise the Wage Act. "It's time to raise the wage to boost local economies and help our communities make ends meet." | Unclear. Says will "[push] for fair wages" but no position found on minimum wage. |
| **POLICE/COMMUNITY ISSUES** <br> Restrict police use of force and increase public oversight? | Yes. Voted for George Floyd Justice in Policing Act of 2020 "to provide justice for … victims of police brutality." | No. Believes "police officers are good people risking their lives to protect our community and have earned our support." |
| **STUDENT FINANCIAL AID** <br> Support free or subsidized tuition for lower-income individuals? | Yes. Co-sponsored bill to make two years of community college free to good students. Americans need chance to get degree without "taking on a mountain of debt." | No position found. Does not support Green New Deal, including its proposed legislation on free tuition. |
| **TAXES** <br> Support administration's $1.9 trillion (2017) tax cuts? | No. Voted against the tax cuts as "an example of fiscal irresponsibility [that] is skewed against American families." | No position found. Against government implementing "higher taxes and reaching deeper into our lives." |
| **VOTING RIGHTS** <br> Support stricter ID requirements and other rules on voting? | No. Co-sponsored Voting Rights Act of 2019. Sponsored Native American Voting Rights Act to remove "burdensome" requirements. | No position found. |