

# New Mexico Governor

## THE ISSUES

MICHELLE  
LUJAN  
GRISHAM



DEMOCRAT • INCUMBENT



MARK  
RONCHETTI

REPUBLICAN

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<p><b>ABORTION</b> Ban or legal?</p>	<p>Legal. <a href="#">“Access to abortion is access to health care,”</a> “New Mexico will continue to be a state that <a href="#">protects and preserves</a> the rights of women.” <a href="#">“A woman has the right</a> to make decisions about her own body.”</p>	<p>Mostly ban. <a href="#">“Will champion...the Right to Life.”</a> Says New Mexico is <a href="#">“one of our nation’s capitals for abortion.”</a> Would allow abortion <a href="#">“up to 15 weeks and in cases involving rape, incest, and when a mother’s life is at risk,”</a> and <a href="#">“end the barbaric practice of late-term abortions.”</a></p>
<p><b>CLIMATE CHANGE</b> Should climate change be a top priority?</p>	<p>Yes. <a href="#">At 2021 UN Climate Conference</a> committed state to climate actions such as <a href="#">reducing methane emissions by 45-50%</a> by 2025, engaging in large-scale reforestation and supporting a low-carbon <a href="#">vehicle fuel standard</a>. Signed a bill to make <a href="#">solar-generated electricity easy to access</a>.</p>	<p>Mostly no. Says climate change is “real” and <a href="#">“needs to be addressed.”</a> However, <a href="#">“we can’t restrict our economy when countries like China and India continue unrestricted pollution. The financial burden would crush our middle and lower class.”</a> <a href="#">Criticizes Grisham climate initiatives.</a></p>
<p><b>EDUCATION</b> How to address teaching the history of race and racism in the United States?</p>	<p><a href="#">Signed a law requiring school districts to implement an anti-bullying programs that includes gender identity, sexual orientation, race, religion, and ability as areas to focus on.</a></p>	<p><a href="#">“Children should not be divided into victims and oppressors based on the color of their skin.”</a> Believes schools should focus on teaching core subjects, <a href="#">“rather than trying to indoctrinate children in liberal ideology.”</a></p>
<p><b>EDUCATION</b> Increase funding for K-12 and higher education?</p>	<p>Yes. Signed a bill making <a href="#">college tuition at public colleges free for most New Mexicans</a>. <a href="#">Raised teachers’ salaries</a>, and <a href="#">increased annual spending on K-12</a> public education by roughly \$425 million in 2022, up 12 percent from the year before.</p>	<p>Mixed. Opposes <a href="#">pulling money from the permanent school fund to increase K-12 funding</a>. Will <a href="#">expand apprenticeship and charter technical programs</a>. <a href="#">Opposes free college</a> as part of opposition to the Green New Deal.</p>
<p><b>ENVIRONMENT</b> Loosen or tighten environmental regulations?</p>	<p>Tighten. Adopted <a href="#">stricter environmental regulations</a> than federal standards. Proposed rules to <a href="#">reduce pollution</a> from the oil and gas industry. <a href="#">Voted against</a> repeal of Obama-era rules <a href="#">reducing coal mining pollution</a>.</p>	<p>Loosen. Opposes a <a href="#">ban on fracking</a>. Supports <a href="#">increasing New Mexico oil production</a>. Says smaller oil and natural producers are <a href="#">“hurting badly”</a> because of Grisham’s restrictions.</p>
<p><b>GUN RULES</b> Pass less or more restrictive legislation on guns?</p>	<p>More. Supports a <a href="#">statewide ban</a> on AR-15-style rifle sales. Signed a “red flag” law enabling courts to <a href="#">re-move firearms</a> from people posing a threat and a bill <a href="#">requiring background checks</a> before most gun sales.</p>	<p>Less. Received the <a href="#">NRA’s highest rating</a>. <a href="#">“Completely”</a> supports the Second Amendment and <a href="#">opposes a federal ban</a> on the sale of military style semi-automatic rifles.</p>
<p><b>HEALTH CARE</b> Increase government role in health care, such as expanding Medicaid, limiting drug prices, or promoting COVID safety?</p>	<p>Yes. Established funds to <a href="#">cut the cost of health insurance and medical expenses</a> for working families, and to support <a href="#">rural hospitals</a>. Increased Medicaid spending for <a href="#">nursing homes</a> and <a href="#">care for new mothers</a>, especially those in poverty. <a href="#">Implemented strict and widespread COVID-19 public health measures</a>.</p>	<p>No. Opposes <a href="#">a single-payer health system as “disastrous.”</a> Would keep Obamacare in place <a href="#">until it can be replaced by a better plan</a>. Outside of testing and distributing PPE, <a href="#">a federal role in COVID is not needed, would be “top-down government.”</a></p>

ISSUES	GRISHAM	RONCHETTI
<b>IMMIGRATION</b> How to handle immigration? Support a path to citizenship for “DACA” participants brought to the US as children?	Signed a <a href="#">law allowing immigrants to get a driver’s license</a> without showing immigration status. <a href="#">Withdraw the majority of National Guard troops deployed at the state’s southern border.</a> On DACA, says “ <a href="#">We need a pathway to citizenship. Dreamers cannot wait any longer.</a> ”	Opposes amnesty for people living illegally in the U.S. “ <a href="#">because it incentivizes even more illegal immigration.</a> ” “ <a href="#">We need a barrier, more staffing or increased air patrol for a more secure border.</a> ” “ <a href="#">Sanctuary cities in New Mexico exacerbate our crime problems.</a> ” No position found on DACA.
<b>LABOR</b> Make it easier or harder for unions to organize?	Easier. “ <a href="#">New Mexico is a proud pro-union state.</a> ” Signed laws to provide <a href="#">accountability and reduce delays in handling petitions to unionize workplaces.</a> <a href="#">Signed a bill</a> allowing employers to <a href="#">require labor union membership</a> for employment.	Harder. Says “ <a href="#">favoring union contracts</a> ” is “ <a href="#">antiquated and regressive.</a> ” “ <a href="#">We need to be a right-to-work state.</a> ”
<b>LGBTQ RIGHTS</b> Limit or expand LGBTQ rights?	Expand. Says “every LGBTQ+ New Mexican” is “ <a href="#">valued and protected.</a> ” Signed a bill prohibiting businesses from discriminating against employees based on <a href="#">sexual orientation.</a>	No position found.
<b>MARIJUANA</b> Should recreational marijuana be banned or legal?	Legal. <a href="#">Legalized</a> adult-use cannabis in state, saying it would create “thousands of good paying jobs for years to come.” Celebrated the first weekend of cannabis sales, totaling \$5.2 million, and said it is “ <a href="#">one of the most successful</a> of any state.”	No position found on legalization. Wants New Mexico to “ <a href="#">be the most aggressive state in the nation in keeping marijuana away from children and prosecuting drugged driving.</a> ”
<b>MINIMUM WAGE</b> Keep or raise the state minimum from \$11.50 per hour? If raise, how much?	Raise. <a href="#">Signed a bill to raise the minimum wage from \$7.50 an hour when she became governor in 2019 to \$11.50 in January 2022 and \$12.00 in 2023.</a> Supports a <a href="#">\$15 minimum</a> for state employees and school workers.	No position found.
<b>POLICE AND COMMUNITY</b> How to address police use of force?	<a href="#">Replaced top law enforcement official</a> to further a shift from traditional policing tactics to community policing and protecting civil rights. Signed a bill <a href="#">eliminating police immunity</a> from prosecution in state courts. Signed a law requiring police officers to <a href="#">wear body cameras</a> to reduce use of excessive force and increase accountability.	Says the police have been “demonized” by the “political elites;” “ <a href="#">will go after the criminals, not cops.</a> ” “ <a href="#">We must support our law enforcement and back the blue.</a> ” Regarding the killing of George Floyd, said “bad cops and those who engage in police brutality and worse must feel <a href="#">the absolute full force of the law.</a> ”
<b>STUDENT FINANCIAL AID</b> Support lowering interest on student loans or forgiving them?	Yes. While in Congress, co-introduced a 2017 bill to expand <a href="#">student loan forgiveness to more public service employees.</a>	No position found on loans. Opposes “ <a href="#">free college</a> ” as a provision of the Green New Deal.
<b>TAXES</b> Should corporations and wealthier individuals pay more or less taxes?	More. While in Congress, <a href="#">voted against 2017 tax cuts</a> that cut the <a href="#">corporate tax rate down to a flat 21% and cut top-bracket individual rates.</a> Also signed a bipartisan bill eliminating <a href="#">state tax on social security</a> for single filers up to \$100,000 and couples \$150,000.	No position found on taxing corporations and the wealthy, but supports a <a href="#">large tax cut on small businesses</a> and supports “ <a href="#">growing the private sector through cutting taxes.</a> ”
<b>VOTING RULES</b> Support tightened restrictions on such voting rules as absentee and early voting, and voter ID?	No. Proposed a bill (did not pass) to extend the <a href="#">early voting period, create a permanent absentee voter list</a> for receiving mail ballots, and expand online voter registration.	Mostly yes. Supports “ <a href="#">absentee voting,</a> ” but opposes “ <a href="#">automatically mailing ballots without voter request.</a> ” Calls Grisham’s proposed bill “an alarming gateway to <a href="#">voter fraud.</a> ” “ <a href="#">Strongly supports voter ID measures.</a> ”

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