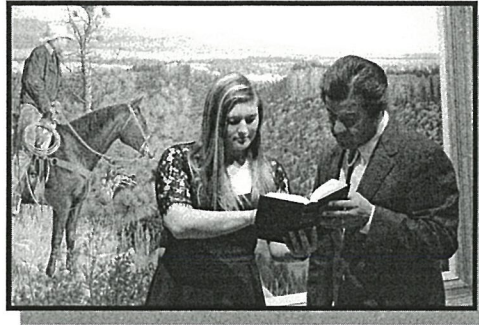


# New Mexico State Senate

## State Capitol Santa Fe



### SENATOR PETE CAMPOS

D-Colfax, Guadalupe, Harding, Mora,  
Quay, San Miguel & Taos-8

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March 18, 2017

Constituents of District Eight  
Counties of Colfax, Guadalupe,  
Harding, Mora, Quay, San Miguel, Taos

Dear Honorable Constituents:

I began several months before the session to communicate with my colleagues about the need for us to work together and address the financial problems of the state. I committed to this process and during the first week of the session, while presiding in the senate, indicated it was important for us to work together to seek solutions and overcome the shortcomings that were crippling our government operations.

The overall well-being of New Mexico is my focus. During the session, I listened intently and exchanged candid thoughts with student groups, the elderly, health care advocates, education leaders, military veterans, agency cabinet secretaries, small business owners, and the public. All concerns were genuinely articulated and many were supported by data and heartfelt experiences. This type of interaction is very important and greatly helps me sort through the details to make decisions how to meet the needs of our state.

This 60-day session is only the start. We still have more work ahead of us to fix the real issues, better connect our budget and revenues to our values, and help each other succeed at our chosen careers. When we enjoy our jobs, reach our employment and personal goals, and work toward the well-being of our families and communities, we will rebound and become a state moving from the bottom of many lists to the top of those same lists. It's doable, but we just need to believe in ourselves and work respectfully with each other!

I am confident we can become a stronger state. If you remember the hard times in your life, you pursued solutions to whatever held you back, you sacrificed so your family had food on the table, and before you realized it, time had passed and what was stressful became another experience from which you learned, appreciated and used to advance toward the next phase of your life.

I believe *New Mexico is on the cusp of tremendous change!* I have attached a basic template that outlines a path that can get us to our destination. It will take our collective commitment to rekindle the strategies that will strengthen our economy, families, and way of life.

Siempre,

Pete Campos, EdD

#### COMMITTEES:

##### MEMBER:

- Committees' Committee
- Finance

#### INTERIM COMMITTEES:

##### MEMBER:

- Legislative Finance Committee
- Committee on Compacts
- Interim Legislative Ethics Committee
- Investments & Pensions Oversight Committee
- Jobs Council

#### ADVISORY MEMBER:

- Legislative Council
- Water & Natural Resources Committee

*New Mexico is on the Cusp of Tremendous Change*  
**State Senator Pete Campos**

**The Departments of Tourism and Economic Development are promoting New Mexico**

- We embrace population diversity – people from around the world are visiting and relocating here
- Our scenic landscapes, clear blue skies and sunshine are attracting visitors, film makers, and developers
- The year-round cultural festivals, one-of-a-kind architectural models on historical registers and pueblo dwellings, unique cuisine, native-style clothing, and art are attracting people looking for a weekend or one-week vacation, sight-seeing excursion or historical educational destination
- Agriculture and home-grown small businesses are becoming stronger producers of goods that are being distributed throughout the world through internet sales and exports in large quantities to other states and countries
- New Mexico True promotes our Western lifestyle which many people throughout the world find intriguing and are purchasing or investing in hand-made and home-grown products from bolo ties to red or green chile and pistachios

**Vision**

- Strong experienced leadership with the vision to plan, articulate necessary change and follow-through with that change to shepherd inspiration, hope, economic growth, and sustainability
- Improve and increase public and private sector opportunity to assist more New Mexicans out of poverty and ill health
- Communicate, illustrate, and unveil a statewide and regional economic plans so people know what employment they can choose close to or at home and across the state to invigorate our economy, rebuild infrastructure, and create more vitality and investment in community life for all sectors, particularly millennials of our state
- To keep our communities – regardless of population – vibrant and contributing to overall economic stability

**The Need**

- We must change the way we do business – develop smarter business models
- Create a three-year development cycle that includes: improving our education and health care models, more tax reform, successfully implement these changes, and provide statewide education of the changes that will advance our state
- We need government **stability**, business friendly **continuity**, and gradual **growth** throughout the state, not just in urban pockets
- We already see great regional development -- like in the Las Cruces area where the population and trade with Mexico are expanding – we must take this template and apply it in other regions where Native American and Hispanic populated areas can enjoy growth in their own unique ways

### **The Budget**

- Health Care and Education are foremost for population well-being, happiness, and thirst for accomplishment
- The judiciary, law enforcement, and corrections are essential to protect our communities from more vandalism, robbery, senseless killing, preventable accidents, illegal drug activity, and arson
- Early childhood services like home visits filled with counseling and nutrition guidance are essential components for success in life
- A tighter control and efficiency of government services and accountability will help to restore confidence by the general public in the services their tax dollars provide
- Wise investment by government and the private sector in development, infrastructure, facilities, programs, and operations lead to real strength in providing good paying jobs, paying salaries beyond the minimum wage, creating long-term careers, and looking ahead at potential expansion in the job and business innovation markets

### **Real Tax Reform**

- Close or shrink tax loopholes – focus on fairness and more money left in the pockets of middle-class wage earners
- Keep locals in mind -- make our tax system fair and simple so local small business merchants can compete with large marketers, basic services like electrical and plumbing, and quality hardware products for everyday home maintenance and servicing
- Develop progressive not regressive tax reform

### **Educate the public of the pathway taken**

- Share the vision – make the message interactive so the people's input is included in the change they want for their state
- Plan long-term, systemically and with positive and measurable outcomes in mind
- Maintain flexibility so what doesn't work can be eliminated and what does work expanded
- Promote the positive, share the optimism, and ensure that the public doesn't take a step backward when they go to work, make a living, and move from government health and food assistance to full-time employment and self-sufficiency, sustainability, and eventual retirement