



# New Mexico State Senate

State Capitol  
Santa Fe

**SENATOR PETE CAMPOS**  
MAJORITY CAUCUS CHAIR  
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## COMMITTEES:

### MEMBER:

- Finance
- Committees' Committee

### INTERIM COMMITTEES:

### MEMBER:

- Legislative Council
- Legislative Finance Committee
- Interim Legislative Ethics Committee

### ADVISORY MEMBER:

- Water & Natural Resources Committee

February 6, 2020

Dear Constituents,

The 2020 Legislative Session is well under way. Many bills have been introduced and committees are busy developing the best legislation possible. Representing all or part of 7 counties (over 14,500 square miles), 19 school districts, and over 36 incorporated and unincorporated communities as a state senator has been a tremendous honor.

***It's about helping people!*** Serving over 2 decades on the Senate Finance Committee has been of great benefit to our senate district. As the third ranking senate member, the top-ranking Hispanic state senator and the majority party caucus chair, I have been afforded valuable experience on your behalf. I have served on most senate committees and learned from many of the best legislative statespersons. In return, I have shared my own private sector, public education, and government policy/fiscal expertise and helped others enhance their skills, solve problems, and create new opportunities.

***We will invest and save wisely for the long term!*** I anticipate the executive and legislative branches will agree on a \$7.7 billion budget, with 60% of the total funding going toward education. Salary increases for public employees and a 25% reserve are incorporated as well. This budget will also focus on bold initiatives like finding and funding solutions to the 13 ½ year developmentally disabled waiting list; improving access to very affordable education at all levels; increasing teacher compensation by at least 5%; providing prenatal and early childhood family services and education to prepare children for active learning and reading proficiency by grade 4; maximizing federal Medicaid leverage to support mental, behavioral, and physical health care for our most vulnerable youth and their families; and, developing career pathways that align with employment trends to make New Mexico regionally competitive.

***Bringing people together!*** There are several high-profile topics under consideration that require many hours of communication and negotiation. These discussions require stakeholder inclusion, thoughtful mediation, extensive subject insight, institutional knowledge, best practices policy scans of surrounding states, and consideration of unintended consequences. My love for people inspires and drives me to respect and listen to all involved while remaining patient with and open to lengthy evidence-based discussions and real human narratives. I consider all factors possible as final legislation is considered.

***Key issues!*** Proposals being vetted in the legislative process include crime reduction measures, PERA/ERB pension solvency, environmental and green energy innovations, extreme risk protection orders to save lives, medical cannabis regulation improvements, recreational cannabis legalization, and capital outlay appropriations to emergency needs like dam repairs (SB 236) to protect drinking water storage and distribution.

***Pay it forward!*** I will continue to support health care for all of us; appropriate funding for needed local projects; build a strategy that leads to a robust diversified economy; and work toward a future with purpose! I invite you to contact me with your questions and concerns during this session and beyond.

Siempre,

Pete Campos, EDD