

New Mexico (NM-02) 2026

US House of Representatives

THE ISSUES

GREG CUNNINGHAM
REPUBLICAN



GABE VASQUEZ
DEMOCRAT · INCUMBENT



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ABORTION Ban or legal?	Ban. Signed a pledge committing to “ending all abortion.” Opposes mailing of abortion medication. Says abortion is “not pertinent” to this year’s election; the U.S. Supreme Court “took that out of the purview of Congress.” Says abortion should be a states’ rights issue.	Legal. Sponsored a bill prohibiting government restrictions on abortion access. Sponsored a bill to protect for abortion access across state lines. Sponsored a bill to protect telehealth access to abortion medication. Voted against restricting federal funds for health plans that cover abortion.
CLIMATE CHANGE Should climate change be a top priority?	Mostly no. Opposes state restrictions on greenhouse gas emissions: “This issue should be nationally regulated.” Opposes restrictions on the oil and gas industry. “ When Washington attacks our energy industry, they’re killing our jobs, they’re defunding our communities.”	Yes. “It’s...abundantly clear that climate change is taking its toll on agricultural production.” Voted against repealing clean energy provisions in the Inflation Reduction Act. Introduced a bill supporting electric school buses. “I will always support smart energy policies that cut red tape.”
CRIMINAL JUSTICE How to ensure effectiveness and fairness in law enforcement?	“I believe in law and order. I believe in funding our police departments.” Supports reinstating qualified immunity for New Mexico police officers, limiting lawsuits against them. “I’ll fight to make sure law enforcement has the support, resources, and respect they deserve.” Supports “harsher sentences for crimes...with a firearm.”	Voted for “over \$9 billion...for...law enforcement, combating cartels, and supporting crime victims.” Sponsored a bill to increase funds to small police departments. Voted for the Native American Child Protection Act. Voted to classify fentanyl as a Schedule 1 substance. Calls for “police reform, not police defunding.”
ECONOMY Cut or increase government investment in, and regulation of, the economy?	Cut regulation. Would “cut the red tape killing our small businesses...and unleash our mining and energy sector.” Would “open more markets for New Mexico growers” by cutting “regulations that make it harder for farmers to process, market, and sell...products.” Opposes “overregulation.”	Mixed. Supports “increasing support for...small businesses.” Voted to loosen regulation of the crypto industry. Voted to create new rules to promote use of crypto stablecoins . Introduced a bill to “protect New Mexico’s mobile home residents from price gouging,...utilities neglect.”
EDUCATION How to handle education in New Mexico?	Supports “eliminating the U.S. Department of Education and giving control back to states.” Opposes “more [education] dollars for undefined programs on a legislative spending spree.” Says the educational system is “broken.” “We must overhaul our complete educational system.”	Opposed a Trump administration freeze on \$7 billion in federal funds for public education, including \$44 million for New Mexico. “We are selling our kids short by eliminating these programs.” Sponsored a bill authorizing federal payments for rural schools. Introduced a bill allowing pensions for tribal school teachers.
ENVIRONMENT Loosen or tighten environmental regulation?	Loosen. Would “cut the permitting and environmental red tape that delays or kills routine farm and ranch work.” Would “get Mexican wolf and gray wolf management...back to the people who live with the consequences.” Would “protect the property rights of New Mexico farmers and ranchers from federal overreach.”	Tighten. Voted against ending a 20-year protection against mining upstream from the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness. Voted to keep an expansion of the streams and wetlands protected by the Clean Water Act. Co-founded the Public Lands Caucus to protect “access to public lands.” “Our public lands are not for sale.”

ISSUES	CUNNINGHAM (R)	VASQUEZ (D)
GUN LAWS Loosen or tighten gun laws?	Loosen. Opposes banning “of any semi-automatic rifle.” “In rural New Mexico, help is not always minutes away. That is why the Second Amendment matters. It protects the right of law-abiding citizens to defend their families, their homes, and their land.”	Tighten. Supports “common sense gun safety laws,...while protecting the Second Amendment.” Sponsored an assault weapons ban . Sponsored a bill requiring background checks “for firearm transfers between...unlicensed individuals.” Sponsored a bill requiring safe gun storage .
HEALTHCARE Increase or decrease government support for healthcare?	Mixed. “Medicaid and Medicare should remain available, but no other taxpayer-funded programs are necessary.” Would expand private health care options for veterans. Would “negotiate lower drug prices” and “reform Big Pharma.”	Increase. Sponsored a bill restoring Medicaid funding and permanently extending Affordable Care Act tax credits. Voted against cutting Medicaid. Sponsored a bill capping prescription drug costs. “ Everybody should be able to afford life-saving care without going broke.”
IMMIGRATION How to handle immigration?	Would “fully fund Border Patrol,...end catch and release...[and] expand manpower and surveillance.” Would “stop rewarding” sanctuary cities. Supports “[completing] the border wall.” Would “fix and modernize the legal agricultural guest worker programs so farms have a reliable, legal workforce.” “I support legal immigration, but we must know who is coming in and why.”	Introduced a bill mandating “oversight of detention conditions.” Voted against building 900 miles of border wall and limiting asylum. Voted against increasing ICE funding by \$75 billion. Supports “a pathway to citizenship” for Dreamers and protections for DACA recipients. “When enforcement is humane and accountable, it’s stronger, not weaker.”
IRAN WAR Support the war in Iran?	Yes. “I do support it.” Opposes Iran obtaining a nuclear weapon. “What would the chaos be if we allowed [Iran] to get a nuclear weapon?” I actually “ applaud the president for doing the right thing instead of the politically expedient thing.”	No. Voted five times to require Congressional authorization for military action in Iran. “ We all agree that Iran should never have a nuclear weapon.” “American people deserve to know why they’re sending their sons and daughters to war.”
LABOR Make it easier or harder for unions to organize workers?	No position found.	Easier. Sponsored a bill to protect employees’ organizing, collective bargaining rights. Sponsored a bill restoring federal workers’ bargaining rights . “I strongly support ...workers’ rights to unionize.”
LGBTQ RIGHTS Limit or expand LGBTQ rights?	Limit. “ Marriage is a sacred union between one man and one woman.... My focus in office will be protecting religious liberty, so no church or person of faith is ever forced to violate their beliefs.” Supports a Supreme Court ruling allowing states to ban transgender athletes from women’s and girls’ sports.	Expand. Sponsored the Equality Act , banning discrimination based on sexual orientation or gender identity. “ LGBTQ+ communities deserve... dignity.” Voted against prohibiting transgender women from federally funded women’s sports. Voted to support reproductive health care for “ LGBTQ+ service members and their families.”
MINIMUM WAGE Raise the federal minimum from \$7.25 per hour?	Likely no. “I will not support additional government regulations on employer-employee relations.” “ Wages should be determined by allowing the free market or supply/demand to determine an appropriate amount.”	Yes. Would raise the federal minimum wage to \$15 an hour. Sponsored a bill to “eliminate the separate minimum wage for tipped employees.” “No one working a full-time job should be stuck with a \$2.13 wage.”
TAXES Raise or lower taxes on corporations and wealthier individuals?	Lower. Supports making permanent the Trump tax cuts, with the largest one-time cut in the corporate tax rate & tax breaks for the wealthy . Opposes providing relief to working families by making those with higher income pay more taxes.	Raise. Opposes “tax cuts for the rich.” Voted against extending the 2017 Trump tax cuts. Sponsored a bill to “to stop large investors from benefiting from tax breaks meant for everyday homeowners.”
VOTING RULES Make voting harder or easier?	Harder. Supports the SAVE Act, requiring anyone registering to vote in a federal election to provide proof of U.S. citizenship. Supports requiring photo ID to vote. “It seems appropriate to make sure the right voter is casting a vote.”	Easier. Voted against the SAVE Act in 2024 and 2025 , calling it “a voter suppression bill.” Sponsored a bill expanding “voter registration... and voting access.” “Every eligible American deserves to have their...vote counted.”

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