



# APV

# PAC

## Animal Protection Voters-Political Action Committee Issues 2016 Primary and Early General Election Endorsements for New Mexico Legislature

*Voters are urged to support the candidates who will do the best job of standing up for the protection of animals in their districts.*

Santa Fe, N.M. – Animal Protection Voters (APV), the leading political and legislative advocacy organization for animal protection in New Mexico, works via APV-PAC, its political action committee, to support humane candidates for elected office. APV-PAC announced today its endorsement of 19 candidates facing contested races in the primary election on June 7, and early endorsement of 56 candidates seeking election or re-election in the general election on November 8.

Incumbents won endorsements for consistently showing animal advocacy and leadership through votes and other actions in the state legislature. New challengers and candidates received endorsements based on their past activity involving animal issues, as well as their responses to a questionnaire on topics including wildlife protection, anti-whistleblower legislation, horse slaughter and funding for animal-related programs. APV-PAC endorsement decisions emphasized two APV priority bills expected to be reintroduced in the 2017 legislative session: a ban on coyote killing contests, and a ban on traps and poisons on public lands. A growing majority of New Mexicans oppose traps and killing contests as unethical and ineffective wildlife management and a danger to public safety.

“Most New Mexicans support stronger animal protection laws, and we are delighted to endorse a diverse, bipartisan slate of candidates who will represent the humane vision and values of their constituents,” said Jessica Johnson, Chief Legislative Officer for APV. “When we vote for humane lawmakers, we help ensure the passage of laws that not only protect animals, but also protect families, children and entire communities.”

The endorsed candidates are as follows:

### STATE SENATE

#### **CONTESTED PRIMARY ENDORSEMENTS:**

- Senate District 3: Sen. John Pinto (D) – 🐾 🐾 🐾
- Senate District 4: Sen. George Muñoz (D) – 🐾
- Senate District 9: Sen. John Sapien (D) – 🐾 🐾 🐾
- Senate District 17: Sen. Mimi Stewart (D) – 🐾 🐾 🐾
- Senate District 22: Sen. Benny Shendo (D) – 🐾 🐾 🐾
- Senate District 36: Jeff Steinborn (D) – 🐾 🐾 🐾

#### **KEY:**

*Endorsements of elected incumbents are ranked from one to three paws, with three paws showing the strongest level of endorsement. Endorsed candidates not recently elected to previous state legislative office receive a star. Occasionally, multiple candidates for an office are pro-animal votes, leading to dual or triple endorsements in a single district.*

- 🐾 = friend
- 🐾 🐾 = dedicated supporter
- 🐾 🐾 🐾 = champion
- 🌟 = new APV-endorsed candidate
- \* = unopposed incumbent

Senate District 39: (Dual Endorsement, listed in alphabetical order by last name)  
Mike Anaya (D) – 🐾; and Liz Stefanics (D) – 🐾

**EARLY GENERAL ELECTION ENDORSEMENTS:**

Senate District 2: Sen. Steven Neville\* (R) – 🐾 🐾 🐾  
Senate District 6: Sen. Carlos Cisneros\* (D) – 🐾 🐾 🐾  
Senate District 8: Sen. Pete Campos\* (D) – 🐾 🐾 🐾  
Senate District 10: David Simon (D) – 🐾  
Senate District 11: Sen. Linda Lopez\* (D) – 🐾 🐾 🐾  
Senate District 12: Sen. Gerald Ortiz y Pino\* (D) – 🐾 🐾 🐾  
Senate District 13: Sen. Bill O’Neill (D) – 🐾 🐾 🐾  
Senate District 14: Sen. Michael Padilla\* (D) – 🐾 🐾 🐾  
Senate District 15: Sen. Daniel Ivey-Soto (D) – 🐾 🐾 🐾  
Senate District 16: Sen. Cisco McSorley\* (D) – 🐾 🐾 🐾  
Senate District 18: Sen. Lisa Torracco (R) – 🐾 🐾 🐾  
Senate District 20: Sen. Bill Payne (R) – 🐾 🐾  
Senate District 21: Sen. Mark Moores (R) – 🐾 🐾 🐾  
Senate District 23: Sen. Sander Rue (R) – 🐾 🐾 🐾  
Senate District 24: Sen. Nancy Rodriguez\* (D) – 🐾 🐾 🐾  
Senate District 25: Sen. Peter Wirth\* (D) – 🐾 🐾 🐾  
Senate District 26: Sen. Jacob Candelaria\* (D) – 🐾 🐾 🐾  
Senate District 28: Sen. Howie Morales\* (D) – 🐾 🐾 🐾  
Senate District 29: Sen. Michael Sanchez (D) – 🐾 🐾 🐾  
Senate District 30: Sen. Clemente Sanchez\* (D) – 🐾 🐾  
Senate District 31: Sen. Joseph Cervantes\* (D) – 🐾 🐾  
Senate District 37: Sen. Bill Soules (D) – 🐾 🐾 🐾  
Senate District 38: Sen. Mary Kay Papen (D) – 🐾 🐾 🐾  
Senate District 42: Sen. Gay Kernan (R) – 🐾 🐾

**STATE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

**CONTESTED PRIMARY ENDORSEMENTS:**

House District 5: Rep. D. Wonda Johnson (D) – 🐾 🐾 🐾  
House District 21: (Dual Endorsement, listed in alphabetical order by last name)  
Rep. Idalia Lechuga-Tena (D) – 🐾; and Debbie Sariñana (D) – 🐾  
House District 25: Rep. Christine Trujillo (D) – 🐾 🐾 🐾  
House District 35: Angelica Rubio (D) – 🐾  
House District 38: Mary Hotvedt (D) – 🐾  
House District 40: Rep. Nick Salazar (D) – 🐾 🐾 🐾  
House District 48: (Triple Endorsement, listed in alphabetical order by last name)  
Paul Campos (D) – 🐾; Linda Trujillo (D) – 🐾; Jeff Varela (D) – 🐾  
House District 69: Lloyd Felipe (D) – 🐾

**EARLY GENERAL ELECTION ENDORSEMENTS:**

House District 6: Rep. Eliseo Alcon\* (D) – 🐾 🐾 🐾  
House District 9: Rep. Patricia Lundstrom\* (D) – 🐾 🐾 🐾  
House District 10: Rep. G. Andrés Romero\* (D) – 🐾 🐾 🐾  
House District 11: Rep. Javier Martínez\* (D) – 🐾 🐾 🐾  
House District 12: Rep. Patricio Ruiloba\* (D) – 🐾 🐾 🐾  
House District 13: Rep. Patricia Roybal Caballero\* (D) – 🐾 🐾 🐾  
House District 14: Rep. Miguel Garcia\* (D) – 🐾 🐾 🐾  
House District 15: Rep. Sarah Maestas Barnes (R) – 🐾 🐾 🐾  
House District 16: Rep. Antonio Maestas\* (D) – 🐾 🐾 🐾  
House District 17: Rep. Deborah Armstrong\* (D) – 🐾 🐾 🐾  
House District 18: Rep. Gail Chasey\* (D) – 🐾 🐾 🐾  
House District 19: Rep. Sheryl Williams Stapleton\* (D) – 🐾 🐾 🐾  
House District 20: Rep. Jim Dines (R) – 🐾 🐾  
House District 22: Rep. James Smith (R) – 🐾 🐾  
House District 23: Rep. Paul Pacheco (R) – 🐾 🐾 🐾  
House District 24: Elizabeth Thomson (D) – 🐾 🐾 🐾  
House District 26: Rep. Georgene Louis\* (D) – 🐾 🐾 🐾  
House District 29: Rep. David Adkins (R) – 🐾 🐾  
House District 33: Rep. Bill McCamley (D) – 🐾 🐾 🐾  
House District 36: Nathan Small (D) – 🐾  
House District 41: Rep. Debbie Rodella\* (D) – 🐾  
House District 42: Rep. Roberto “Bobby” Gonzales\* (D) – 🐾 🐾  
House District 43: Rep. Stephanie Garcia Richard (D) – 🐾 🐾 🐾  
House District 45: Rep. Jim Trujillo\* (D) – 🐾 🐾 🐾  
House District 46: Rep. Carl Trujillo\* (D) – 🐾 🐾 🐾  
House District 47: Rep. Brian Egolf (D) – 🐾 🐾 🐾  
House District 50: Rep. Matthew McQueen (D) – 🐾 🐾 🐾  
House District 52: Rep. Doreen Gallegos\* (D) – 🐾 🐾 🐾  
House District 54: Rep. James Townsend\* (R) – 🐾  
House District 57: Rep. Jason Harper (R) – 🐾  
House District 62: Rep. Larry Scott\* (R) – 🐾  
House District 70: Rep. Tomas Salazar\* (D) – 🐾

APV-PAC will release additional endorsements for the general election at a later date.

New Mexicans appreciate legislators who value the role animals play in all our lives and believe the government should play an active role in ensuring that animals receive humane care and protection from cruelty and exploitation.

“New Mexico’s animals and the people who care about them deserve to have a voice in government, and APV is proud to be on the frontlines helping to create humane laws that protect us all,” Johnson explained. “Supporting APV-PAC endorsed candidates on Election Day is

a powerful way to stand up for animals and make important, powerful changes in our communities.”

Animal Protection Voters is the political voice for people who care about animals. For more information about APV’s priority issues, legislation and scorecards, visit [apvnm.org](http://apvnm.org).

###

Media Contact:

Sara Palmer

Communications Director, APV

[sara@apvnm.org](mailto:sara@apvnm.org)

505-908-0622

APV Contact:

Jessica Johnson

Chief Legislative Officer, APV

[jessica@apvnm.org](mailto:jessica@apvnm.org)

505-220-6656