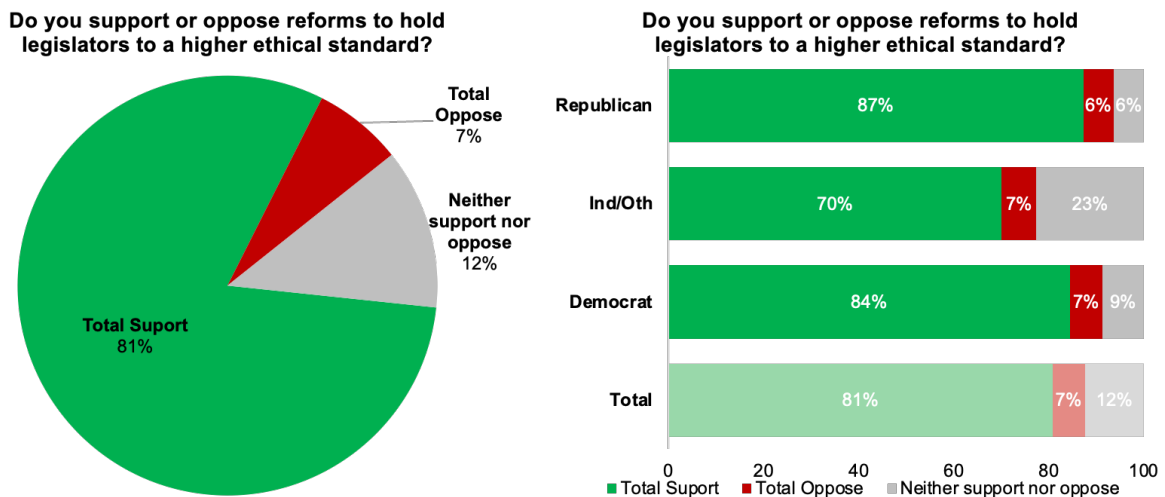


New Mexican Voters Support Series of Ethics Reform Policies Including Making Ethics Reform Mandatory for Paying Members of the Legislature for their Legislative Duties

BSP Research recently conducted a statewide survey of registered voters in New Mexico focused on the electorate's attitudes toward policy reforms regarding ethical standards for the legislature. The survey was fielded in late July through mid-August and provides an independent perspective of the electorate in New Mexico across a range of policies that may be considered in the upcoming legislative session in the state.

Policy Reforms for Legislative Ethics Standards, Salary, and Transparency

A robust 81% support reforms to hold legislators to a higher ethical standard, including a majority (60%) who strongly support this potential reform. This is a bi-partisan issue in New Mexico, as 87% of self-reported Republicans and 84% of Democrats support holding legislators to a higher ethical standard.

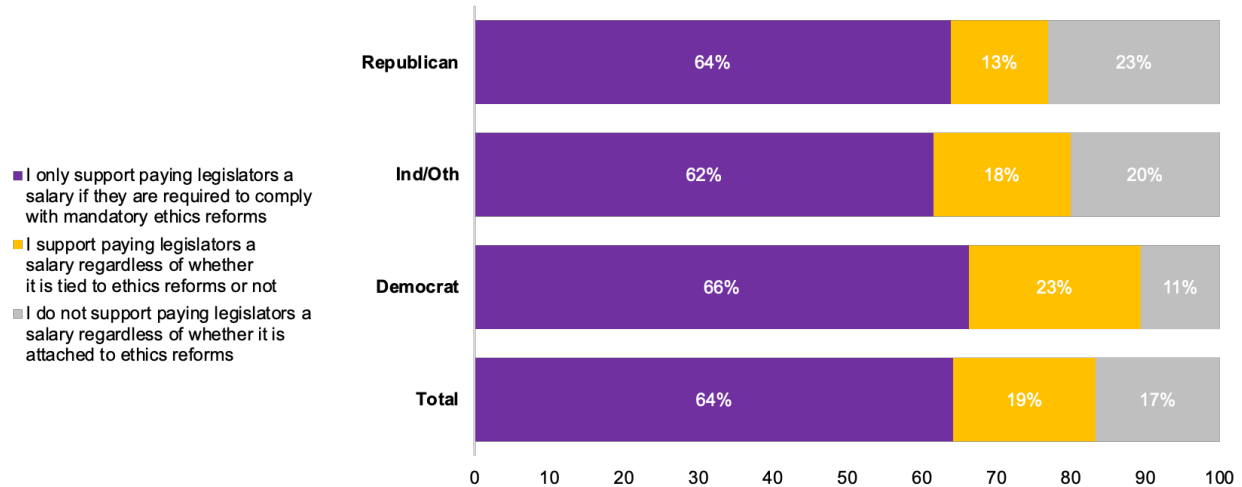


One of the key findings from the survey is that registered voters in New Mexico support connecting ethics reform to the potential of paying members of the legislature for their legislative work.

As reflected in the figure below, when asked to identify which was closest to their views regarding paying legislators in the state of New Mexico, a robust 64% *only* support paying legislators a salary if they are required to comply with mandatory ethics reform compared to only 19% who support paying legislators regardless of whether it is tied to ethics reform or not. Another 17% of the electorate do not support paying legislators with or without ethics reform. There is consensus across the electorate on this issue, with roughly identical percentages of New Mexicans regardless of partisanship or race supporting connecting paying legislators with ethics reform.

This attitude is shared consistently across New Mexicans regardless of their self-identified partisanship. Democrats express slightly higher support than Republicans or Independents, with 66% in favor. However, over 60% of both Independents and Republicans support requiring ethics reform in order to advance professionalization of the legislature through the provision of salaries.

Which comes closest to your view regarding paying legislators in New Mexico?



Policy Reforms for Lobbying Activities and Conflicts of Interest

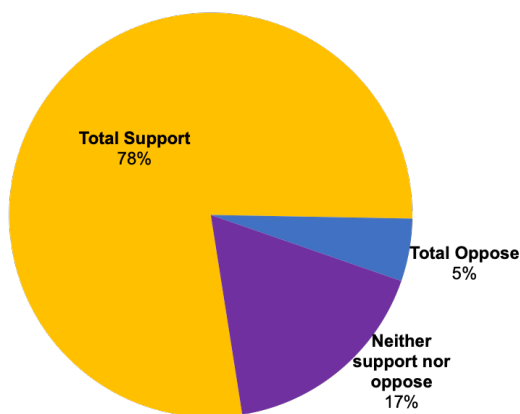
New Mexicans in the survey were also asked for their attitudes regarding a series of more specific policies aimed at improving ethical guardrails for legislators, lobbyists, and advocacy groups. New Mexicans are supportive of all of these potential policy reforms. This includes majority support (66%) for requiring legislators to wait at least two years after leaving office (64% support a one year waiting period).

There is also strong support for addressing potential conflicts of interest among members of the legislature, with high agreement among New Mexico’s electorate across the following statements:

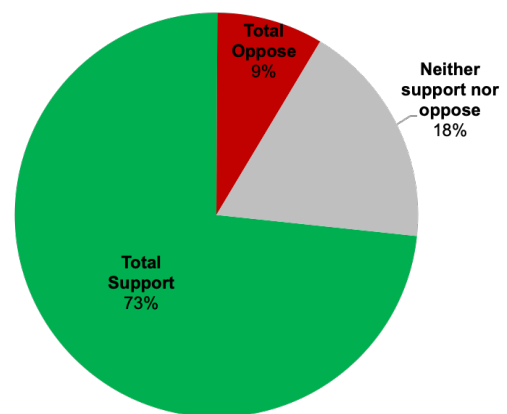
- 84% of the sample agreed with the statement that “legislators should publicly report when they have a financial conflict of interest with a particular bill.”
- 83% of the sample agreed with the statement that “legislators should publicly report when they work in an industry that would be affected by a particular bill they are voting on.”
- 81% of the sample agreed with the statement that “legislators should recuse themselves – in other words, not vote on – bills where they have a financial conflict of interest.”
- 73% of the sample agreed with the statement that “legislators should recuse themselves – in other words, not vote on – a bill that would affect the industry they work in.

The public in New Mexico is also highly supportive of extending conflict of interest rules to include activities by family members of legislators. For example, 78% of the sample supports requiring legislators to disclose when an immediate family member – a spouse, parent, child, or sibling – is being paid to lobby for or against a bill that the legislator is voting on. This is consistent with the 73% of the electorate that supports legislators recusing themselves – in other words, not voting on – a bill when an immediate family member is being paid to lobby for or against that bill. The majority of registered voters strongly support both proposals.

Do you support or oppose requiring legislators to report when an immediate family member – a spouse, parent, child, or sibling – is being paid to lobby for or against a bill that the legislator is voting on?



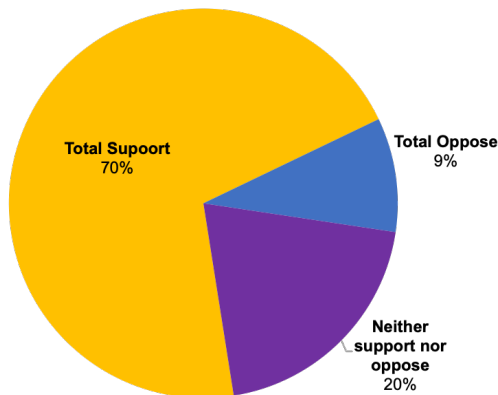
Do you support or oppose requiring legislators to recuse themselves – in other words, not vote on – a bill when an immediate family member is being paid to lobby for or against that bill? Total



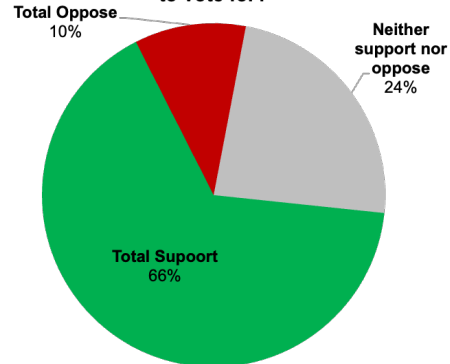
The final section of the survey is focused on potential policy reforms providing oversight of interest groups and lobbyists. Consistent with the data regarding ethics reform related to

legislators, New Mexicans support greater oversight for other actors in the state’s legislative system. This includes 70% support for requiring groups that spend money on political advertisements in New Mexico to publicly report their donors and sources of funding, and 66% support for requiring these groups to publicly report their donors and sources of funding, even if the advertisements do not explicitly mention an election or urge people to vote for or against a specific candidate.

Do you support or oppose requiring groups that spend money on political advertisements in New Mexico to publicly report their donors and sources of funding?



Do you support or oppose requiring groups that spend money on political advertisements in New Mexico to publicly report their donors and sources of funding, even if the advertisements do not explicitly mention an election or urge people to vote for?



The electorate has a similar view of reforming the state’s oversight of paid lobbyists, supporting a range of common-sensical approaches to improving transparency. A robust 75% (3 in 4 registered voters) support requiring lobbyists to publicly report which elected officials are receiving or benefiting from specific lobbyist expenditure. Similarly, 73% support identifying which of a lobbyist’s clients is paying for a particular expenditure, and 74% support identifying which specific bills or issue areas lobbyists are promoting with their spending.

Over 70% of registered voters also support disclosing the specific bills or pieces of legislation that a lobbyist is lobbying for or against, and nearly 80% of registered voters support requiring lobbyists to publicly report their lobbying expenditures (spending) during and immediately after the legislative session. Just over 80% of New Mexicans also support a law requiring lobbyists to publicly report the amount of money they are being paid by each client.

Finally, the survey also asked respondents a few items about their general attitudes toward the legislature. These are important contextual items, as they help provide insights regarding what might be driving New Mexicans' strong desire to see ethics reform legislation passed in the state. New Mexicans have mixed views about their legislative body, with a combined 43% of the sample reporting that they think they can trust the state legislature to do what is right just about always (7%) or most of the time (36%), compared to 45% who think they can be trusted only some of the time, and 12% never.

New Mexicans are less likely to believe that the legislature represents their voice. Only 25% think the state legislature represents their voice either always (6%) or often (19%), compared to 39% who believe they sometimes represent their voice, 27% rarely, and 9% never represent their voice.

Survey Methodology

The survey of 800 New Mexican registered voters was commissioned by Think New Mexico and was fielded between July 22– August 7 2026 through web-based interviews with respondents recruited through both Email and text-messages. The survey was fielded on-line in both English and Spanish and has an overall margin of error of +/- 3.5%. The survey sample was designed to be representative of the state's population of registered voters and post-data collection weights

were utilized to balance the sample to the registered voting population based on the most recent US Census estimates. In regard to partisanship, 43% of respondents self-identify as Democrats, 33% Republican, and 25% Independent or Decline to State. The poll was led by Dr. Gabriel R. Sanchez, the Director of Research at BSP Research who is a nationally recognized expert in New Mexico politics and policy.