

## New Mexico

Voters in New Mexico will elect a Governor and Lt. Governor, Attorney General, and state legislators in the 2018 election cycle. All 70 seats are up in the House where Democrats will be defending a majority. New Mexico is considered a gubernatorial battleground state.

## Governor

## **Republican Nominee**

## **Congressman Steve Pearce**

Congressman Steve Pearce has served Arizona's  $2^{nd}$  district twice – his first tenure was 2003-2009 and then from 2010 to 2018. As he is running for head of state, he is not seeking re-election to Congress.

Congressman Pearce recently unveiled an economic plan that includes working with the State Investment Council for increased funding. He wants to build more hydroponic greenhouses and incentivize tech startups and R&D to contract with National Laboratories. He supports new mining opportunities. He also wants to establish plants and refineries in the state. He supports expanding the state's alternative energy sector including nuclear and solar.

He has pledged not to raise a single tax if elected. He supports work requirements and drug tests for Medicaid. He wants to introduce a tax credit for employees who work less than 20 hours per week to encourage employers to provide health insurance.

He supports school choice and charter schools. He wants to overhaul the current public teacher evaluations along with the current school testings. Congressman Pearce wants to establish apprenticeship programs in every school district

A general supporter of the President, he broke with the Trump Administration on family separation policies at the border and was <u>quoted</u> saying "a wall isn't the magic answer."

He also believes in criminal justice reform and would like to establish a program within the state that puts non-violent first-time offenders in a work program to help restoring forests.

*Trivia:* Not to be confused with <u>Steve Pearce</u>, the Congressman notched a hit in this year's Congressional baseball game.