

RAMONA GOOLSBY (R)

Ramona Goolsby is the Republican nominee for New Mexico Secretary of State in 2026. As a relative political newcomer, Goolsby touts her status as a political outsider, claiming she threw herself into public life after relocating to New Mexico in 2019. In November 2025, Goolsby was elected to serve as supervisor for Bernalillo, Sandoval and Santa Fe counties on the Ciudad Soil and Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors. Previously, she spent 33 years in nursing, including 20 years as a Family Nurse Practitioner, before retiring. For 40 years, Goolsby also managed a 380-acre ranch in Oklahoma. Additionally, she is a veteran, having served as an officer in the U.S. Army Reserves. Goolsby currently resides in Rio Rancho. Her Secretary of State campaign rests on [three principles](#): ensuring “every eligible voter can register and vote clearly and confidently;” ensuring “public resources (are) managed with transparency and respect for taxpayers;” and adopting “clear rules...through professional oversight, and leadership that is calm, principled, and solution-focused.” Her campaign website openly discusses her increasing political involvement, noting that “when she saw transparency concerns go unanswered, she acted: filing a lawsuit in the 13th District Court challenging constitutional violations by the Secretary of State’s office, a Writ of Mandamus to obtain 2022 election ballots, and multiple ethics complaints with the State Ethics Commission. Encouraged by the Bernalillo County GOP following her conservation board win, she filed for Secretary of State on February 3, 2026.”

Key Findings:

Goolsby has been a member of an extreme right-wing group that promoted allegations of widespread voter fraud and cast doubt on the reliability of local voting procedures. As of 2024, Goolsby was a member of — and the librarian for — New Mexico Transparency Network (NMETN), which City Desk ABQ described as “an extreme right-wing group who regularly speak at Sandoval County Commission meetings.” According to the Washington Post, NMETN was “an organization that has been at the forefront of efforts to cast doubt on the reliability of local voting procedures.” WaPo’s reporting indicated that county officials had spent “many hours” fielding questions from “the local activist group that has promoted debunked allegations of widespread voter fraud.” When interviewed by Washington Post, Goolsby said she saw no conflict in her and the leader of NMETN’s dual roles as poll workers and their group’s criticisms of the public’s faith in voting.

Goolsby has been an avid supporter of voter ID laws. When asked in a candidate questionnaire if she supported requiring voters to show ID, Goolsby said “Yes, common-sense voter ID is an 80/20 issue even in New Mexico.” During a debate, Goolsby said stricter voter identification laws are necessary, along with removing ineligible voters from the rolls. At the same debate, she claimed that when she worked with the clerks in statewide elections, people were “taken aback” when told they didn’t need their card to vote. When discussing the SAVE Act with Source NM, Goolsby said “I don’t think that it is necessarily a danger to democracy.” She told the outlet she has qualms with several key provisions of the SAVE ACT, such as the requirements to register with certain documents and the absentee voting ban. However, she “agreed with some measures in the bill,” particularly the voter ID requirements.

Goolsby has campaigned on cleaning up voter rolls. Goolsby said the top concern she hears about is “voter rolls not being as clean and pristine as they should be,” and claimed people who have moved or died are still on the rolls in large numbers. She vowed to “prioritize rigorous, frequent maintenance of voter rolls to ensure list accuracy and restore public trust.” When asked in a candidate questionnaire if the state should provide the DOJ full access to its voter registration database, Goolsby said it was “necessary to ensure New Mexico is complying with federal laws like the National Voter Registration Act” and claimed “federal oversight helps identify potential noncitizen registrations and ensures that

voter lists are maintained accurately across state lines, which ultimately strengthens the integrity of the national electoral system.”

Goolsby participated in a coalition’s effort to repeal New Mexico’s abortion protections and called the movement “amazing.” In 2023, Goolsby was part of a coalition that filed a civil case, eventually dismissed by a judge, which aimed to put questions on the 2024 ballot asking voters to decide whether to repeal a handful of new state laws, including abortion protections. Goolsby argued the Secretary of State’s office had overstepped its authority, challenging its decision to reject efforts to repeal New Mexico laws. Secretary of State Maggie Toulouse Oliver had declined a referendum attempt for the law protecting access to reproductive care, asserting it is exempt from referendum under the state constitution because it is "necessary for the preservation of public peace, health or safety." (Under the New Mexico Constitution, residents can seek to repeal state laws enacted by the Legislature except general appropriations, laws providing for the preservation of the public peace, health or safety, and payment of public debt or interest.) The judge sided with Toulouse Oliver. Goolsby wrote an email claiming the statewide movement to repeal New Mexico’s HB7, which protected abortion and gender-affirming care, was “amazing and bigger than any group. It is synergistic. The coalition was formed because we love God, our families, our children, life and the freedom to make our own decisions about how we take care of and honor what we love.” Goolsby’s website claims that she sponsored all six referendum bills in New Mexico and served as designated agent for HB7, SB13, and SB180.

As a political newcomer, Goolsby has touted her experience working as a poll clerk, authoring and sponsoring multiple referendum petitions and testifying before legislative committees on issues involving election transparency. According to her website, “Since settling in New Mexico, Ramona has thrown herself into public life.” In a 2026 press release announcing her candidacy, she touted her experience working as a poll clerk, authoring and sponsoring multiple referendum petitions and testifying before legislative committees on issues involving election transparency. Goolsby’s website cited her experience filing ethics complaints and partnering “with nonprofits and advocacy organizations working on election integrity, constitutional rights, and community education across the state.” Goolsby spun her lack of public service experience as a positive. When asked what made her the best candidate for the job, she cited her “proven leadership skills” – from her experience in the military, medicine, and business ownership – and noted that she was not a career politician. Notably, Goolsby attended her first political convention in 2026 and said it was an eye-opening view into the “machine” of party politics, but vowed to focus on public service and listen to voters.

BACKGROUND

Personal Life

As of 2023, Goolsby lived in Rio Rancho, NM. “The court challenge against the secretary of state was filed in April - just weeks after the 60-day legislative session ended - by Ramona Goolsby of Rio Rancho, who is involved with a coalition of groups seeking to get the targeted laws on the November 2024 ballot for a repeal vote.” [Albuquerque Journal, 6/8/23]

Goolsby moved to New Mexico in 2019. “Goolsby, who moved to New Mexico in 2019, is a former family nurse practitioner.” [Albuquerque Journal, 3/11/26]

- **Goolsby said she came to New Mexico in 2019 for work and when the pandemic hit, she chose to stay.** “Ramona Goolsby came to New Mexico in 2019 for work and when the pandemic hit, she chose to stay. While others retreated, she kept reporting to work as a Primary Care Provider for the Veterans Administration, caring for the men and women who had given so much for this country. She had found her home.” [Ramonanm.com, accessed [7/23/26](#)]

Goolsby’s website described her as a mother and grandmother. “Ramona is a U.S. Army Reserve veteran, a mother, and a grandmother — living a life rooted in service, stewardship, and responsibility.” [Ramonanm.com, accessed [7/23/26](#)]

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Education

Goolsby holds a master’s degree in nursing as a family nurse practitioner. “Educational background: Master's degree in nursing as a family nurse practitioner” [Santa Fe New Mexican, 5/4/26]

Goolsby earned a Master Cattleman certification from Oklahoma State University in 2005. “Her career spans more than three decades of service. As a retired Family Nurse Practitioner with 33 years as a nurse and 20 as an FNP, practicing at the VA and Kiamichi Family Medical Center, her approach has always been the same: treat every person with precision and accountability, and make sure the systems behind the work are just as sound as the work itself. That discipline runs through everything she has done: Officer in the U.S. Army Reserves, staff accountant for a CPA firm, small business owner for over 40 years, and manager of a 380-acre ranch where she practiced soil and water conservation for four decades, earning her Master Cattleman certification from Oklahoma State University in 2005.” [Ramonanm.com, accessed [7/23/26](#)]

Career

2026: Goolsby was a member of the Ciudad Soil and Water Conservation District Board.

“Goolsby, who is running for secretary of state, said it was her first time attending a political convention. She is currently a member of the Ciudad Soil and Water Conservation District Board, with a background as a family nurse practitioner.” [Albuquerque Journal, 3/8/26]

- **November 2025: Goolsby was elected to the Ciudad Soil and Water Conservation District Board.** “Goolsby was elected to the water conservation board in November, following her experience working as a poll clerk, authoring and sponsoring multiple referendum petitions and testifying before legislative committees on issues involving election transparency, according to the release. Goolsby, who moved to New Mexico in 2019, is a former family nurse practitioner.” [Albuquerque Journal, 3/11/26]
- **Goolsby serves as supervisor for Bernalillo, Sandoval and Santa Fe counties on the Ciudad Soil and Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors.** “Occupation: Ciudad Soil and Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors, serving as supervisor for Bernalillo, Sandoval and Santa Fe counties Political experience: Ciudad Soil and Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors, serving as supervisor” [Santa Fe New Mexican, 5/4/26]

In a press release, Goolsby touted her experience working as a poll clerk, authoring and sponsoring multiple referendum petitions and testifying before legislative committees on issues involving election transparency. “Goolsby was elected to the water conservation board in November, following her experience working as a poll clerk, authoring and sponsoring multiple referendum petitions and testifying before legislative committees on issues involving election transparency, according to the release. Goolsby, who moved to New Mexico in 2019, is a former family nurse practitioner.” [Albuquerque Journal, 3/11/26]

Goolsby was a former family nurse practitioner. “Goolsby, who is running for secretary of state, said it was her first time attending a political convention. She is currently a member of the Ciudad Soil and Water Conservation District Board, with a background as a family nurse practitioner.” [Albuquerque Journal, 3/8/26]

Goolsby worked as a Primary Care Provider for the Veterans Administration. “Ramona Goolsby came to New Mexico in 2019 for work and when the pandemic hit, she chose to stay. While others retreated, she kept reporting to work as a Primary Care Provider for the Veterans Administration, caring for the men and women who had given so much for this country. She had found her home.” [Ramonanm.com, accessed [7/23/26](#)]

Goolsby described herself as a retired Family Nurse Practitioner with 33 years as a nurse and 20 as an FNP, practicing at the VA and Kiamichi Family Medical Center. “Her career spans more than three decades of service. As a retired Family Nurse Practitioner with 33 years as a nurse and 20 as an FNP, practicing at the VA and Kiamichi Family Medical Center, her approach has always been the same: treat every person with precision and accountability, and make sure the systems behind the work are just as sound as the work itself. That discipline runs through everything she has done: Officer in the U.S. Army Reserves, staff accountant for a CPA firm, small business owner for over 40 years, and manager of a 380-acre ranch where she practiced soil and water conservation for four decades, earning her Master Cattleman certification from Oklahoma State University in 2005.” [Ramonanm.com, accessed [7/23/26](#)]

Goolsby served as an officer in the U.S. Army Reserves. “Her career spans more than three decades of service. As a retired Family Nurse Practitioner with 33 years as a nurse and 20 as an FNP, practicing at the VA and Kiamichi Family Medical Center, her approach has always been the same: treat every person with precision and accountability, and make sure the systems behind the work are just as sound as the work itself. That discipline runs through everything she has done: Officer in the U.S. Army Reserves, staff accountant for a CPA firm, small business owner for over 40 years, and manager of a

380-acre ranch where she practiced soil and water conservation for four decades, earning her Master Cattleman certification from Oklahoma State University in 2005.” [Ramonanm.com, accessed [7/23/26](#)]

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Career Timeline

According to Goolsby’s LinkedIn, her experience included:

1989 – 1991: Staff Accountant at Martin J Bell CPA (Idabel, Oklahoma)

1991 – 1993: Studied Nursing (A.S.) at Texarkana College

1995 – 1997: Studied Nursing (B.S.) at University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences

2005: Studied Nursing (MSN) at University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences

2005 – 2010: Nurse Practitioner at Advanced Heart Care (Idabel, Oklahoma)

2011 – 2012: Nurse Practitioner at Christus St. Michael Quick Care (New Boston, Texas)

2012 – 2018: Nurse Practitioner at Kiamichi Family Medical center (Idabel, Oklahoma)

2019 – 2021: Family Nurse Practitioner at Department of Veterans Services

1980 – 2021: Partner at Clawson Cattle (Idabel, Oklahoma)

2023 – Present: Freelance Journalist at Estancia News

2026 – Present: Member of the Ciudad Soil & Water Conservation District

[LinkedIn, accessed [7/23/26](#)]

Activism

Goolsby’s website touted her sponsored of six referendum bills in New Mexico, and her service as designated agent for HB7, SB13, and SB180. “Since settling in New Mexico, Ramona has thrown herself into public life. She sponsored all six referendum bills in New Mexico and served as designated agent for HB7, SB13, and SB180. She has partnered with nonprofits and advocacy organizations working on election integrity, constitutional rights, and community education across the state.”

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Since settling in New Mexico, Ramona has thrown herself into public life. She sponsored all six referendum bills in New Mexico and served as designated agent for HB7, SB13, and SB180. She has partnered with nonprofits and advocacy organizations working on election integrity, constitutional rights, and community education across the state.” [Ramonanm.com, accessed [7/23/26](#)]

Goolsby said she filed a lawsuit in the 13th District Court challenging constitutional violations by the Secretary of State’s office. “When she saw transparency concerns go unanswered, she acted: filing a lawsuit in the 13th District Court challenging constitutional violations by the Secretary of State’s office, a Writ of Mandamus to obtain 2022 election ballots, and multiple ethics complaints with the State Ethics Commission. Encouraged by the Bernalillo County GOP following her conservation board win, she filed for Secretary of State on February 3, 2026.” [Ramonanm.com, accessed [7/23/26](#)]

Goolsby’s website said she filed a Writ of Mandamus to obtain 2022 election ballots. “When she saw transparency concerns go unanswered, she acted: filing a lawsuit in the 13th District Court challenging constitutional violations by the Secretary of State’s office, a Writ of Mandamus to obtain 2022 election ballots, and multiple ethics complaints with the State Ethics Commission. Encouraged by the Bernalillo County GOP following her conservation board win, she filed for Secretary of State on February 3, 2026.” [Ramonanm.com, accessed [7/23/26](#)]

Goolsby’s website said she had filed multiple ethics complaints with the State Ethics Commission. “When she saw transparency concerns go unanswered, she acted: filing a lawsuit in the 13th District Court challenging constitutional violations by the Secretary of State’s office, a Writ of Mandamus to obtain 2022 election ballots, and multiple ethics complaints with the State Ethics Commission. Encouraged by the Bernalillo County GOP following her conservation board win, she filed for Secretary of State on February 3, 2026.” [Ramonanm.com, accessed [7/23/26](#)]

New Mexico Transparency Network

Goolsby was a member of New Mexico Transparency Network (NMETN), which City Desk described as “an extreme right-wing group.” “The conflict between members of an extreme right-wing group who regularly speak at Sandoval County Commission meetings and Democrats is still simmering following a failed effort to oust Commissioner Katherine Bruch, D-Placitas, by the group’s leader last month. [...] Ramona Goolsby, a NMETN member and leader of a petition effort calling for a referendum to overturn bills passed into law by Democrats during the 2023 legislative session, sounded more ominous.” [City Desk ABQ, [1/26/24](#)]

Goolsby was librarian for NMETN, a activist group that had “promoted debunked allegations of widespread voter fraud.” “Sandoval County has overhauled the hand-counting of absentee ballots, reduced its number of ballot drop boxes and curtailed their hours of access. Not only have Brady-Romero and Dominguez, her chief deputy, spent many hours answering questions from a local activist group that has promoted debunked allegations of widespread voter fraud; they have hired two of the group’s leaders to work the polls on Tuesday. [...] Both Veltri and Ramona Goolsby, his organization’s librarian, have signed up as official poll workers for the upcoming election. Despite their ongoing broadsides against the state’s voting methods, they have signed a code of conduct, which states that ‘poll workers should, at all times, uphold and increase the public trust and confidence in New Mexico elections.’” [Washington Post, [11/3/24](#)]

- **Washington Post described NMETN as “an organization that has been at the forefront of efforts to cast doubt on the reliability of local voting procedures.”** “John Veltri, a Placitas resident who leads the New Mexico Election Transparency Network — an organization that has been at the forefront of efforts to cast doubt on the reliability of local voting procedures — said he still worries that elections are vulnerable to fraud or manipulation. He believes voters should be required to present identification at the polls and that the county should ditch its voting machines in favor of hand-counting ballots.” [Washington Post, [11/3/24](#)]

Goolsby said she saw no conflict in her and the leader of NMETN’s dual roles as poll workers and that their group’s criticisms are aimed at increasing the public’s faith in voting by holding election officials accountable. “Both Veltri and Ramona Goolsby, his organization’s librarian, have signed up as official poll workers for the upcoming election. Despite their ongoing broadsides against the state’s voting methods, they have signed a code of conduct, which states that ‘poll workers should, at all times, uphold and increase the public trust and confidence in New Mexico elections.’ Goolsby said she sees no conflict in the dual roles, and that their group’s criticisms are aimed at increasing the public’s faith in voting by holding election officials accountable.” [Washington Post, [11/3/24](#)]

Sandoval County Commission Meetings

Goolsby on the Sandoval County Commission: “I hear what elected officials say about those of us that come twice a month to demand accountability from this commission. Yes, people are listening and watching you very carefully.” “Ramona Goolsby, a NMETN member and leader of a petition effort calling for a referendum to overturn bills passed into law by Democrats during the 2023 legislative session, sounded more ominous. ‘I hear what elected officials say about those of us that come twice a month to demand accountability from this commission. Yes, people are listening and watching you very carefully,’ she said.” [City Desk ABQ, [1/26/24](#)]

At a Sandoval County Commission meeting, Goolsby said 2024 would be a year of “accountability and truth.” “Goolsby opened her remarks by saying that 2024 would be the year of ‘accountability and

truth.’ She used the words again in closing, along with a reference to a Bible verse. ‘Money-changers tables will continue to fall,’ she warned.” [City Desk ABQ, [1/26/24](#)]

- **At a Sandoval County Commission meeting, Goolsby said “Money-changers tables will continue to fall.”** “Goolsby opened her remarks by saying that 2024 would be the year of ‘accountability and truth.’ She used the words again in closing, along with a reference to a Bible verse. ‘Money-changers tables will continue to fall,’ she warned.” [City Desk ABQ, [1/26/24](#)]

Anti-Choice Referendum Effort

Goolsby was a “leader of a petition effort calling for a referendum to overturn bills passed into law by Democrats during the 2023 legislative session.” “The conflict between members of an extreme right-wing group who regularly speak at Sandoval County Commission meetings and Democrats is still simmering following a failed effort to oust Commissioner Katherine Bruch, D-Placitas, by the group’s leader last month. [...] Ramona Goolsby, a NMETN member and leader of a petition effort calling for a referendum to overturn bills passed into law by Democrats during the 2023 legislative session, sounded more ominous.” [City Desk ABQ, [1/26/24](#)]

2023: A judge dismissed a civil case filed by Goolsby, who was part of a coalition aiming to put questions on the 2024 ballot asking voters to decide whether to repeal a handful of new state laws, including abortion protections. “A state district judge has sided with Secretary of State Maggie Toulouse Oliver in a case challenging her office's decision to reject efforts to repeal New Mexico laws. Judge James Noel of the 13th Judicial District Court on Thursday granted Toulouse Oliver's motion seeking dismissal of a civil case filed by Ramona Goolsby of Rio Rancho, who is part of a coalition that aims to put questions on the general election ballot in November 2024 asking voters to decide whether to repeal a handful of new state laws, including abortion protections.” [Santa Fe New Mexican, 6/10/23]

- **The judge sided with Secretary of State Maggie Toulouse Oliver in the case challenging the SOS office’s decision to reject efforts to repeal New Mexico laws.** “A state district judge has sided with Secretary of State Maggie Toulouse Oliver in a case challenging her office's decision to reject efforts to repeal New Mexico laws. Judge James Noel of the 13th Judicial District Court on Thursday granted Toulouse Oliver's motion seeking dismissal of a civil case filed by Ramona Goolsby of Rio Rancho, who is part of a coalition that aims to put questions on the general election ballot in November 2024 asking voters to decide whether to repeal a handful of new state laws, including abortion protections.” [Santa Fe New Mexican, 6/10/23]
- **Toulouse Oliver had declined a referendum attempt for the law protecting access to reproductive care, asserting it is exempt from referendum under the state constitution because it is “necessary for the preservation of public peace, health or safety.”** “Toulouse Oliver had declined a referendum attempt for the law protecting access to reproductive care, asserting it is exempt from referendum under the state constitution because it is ‘necessary for the preservation of public peace, health or safety.’” [Santa Fe New Mexican, 6/10/23]
- **Under the New Mexico Constitution, residents can seek to repeal state laws enacted by the Legislature except general appropriations, laws providing for the preservation of the public peace, health or safety, and payment of public debt or interest.** “Under the New Mexico Constitution, residents can seek to repeal state laws enacted by the Legislature except the following: General appropriations. Laws providing for the preservation of the public peace, health or safety. Payment of public debt or interest.” [Santa Fe New Mexican, 6/10/23]

- **Goolsby argued the SOS office had overstepped its authority.** “Goolsby argued in her April 11 case the Secretary of State's Office had overstepped its authority.” [Santa Fe New Mexican, 6/10/23]
- **Toulouse Oliver's motion to dismiss Goolsby's lawsuit argued that state law obligated the SOS to review petitions for their validity and claimed Goolsby's complaint included “extraneous materials” that were not part of the petition process, lacked required instructions and statements of penalties, and needed minor corrections to the name of the bill and related statutes.** “Toulouse Oliver's motion to dismiss Goolsby's lawsuit, filed May 3, said state law ‘obligates’ the secretary of state to review referendum petitions for their validity. She argued the one at the center of Goolsby's complaint included ‘extraneous materials’ that were not part of any proper referendum petition process, lacked required instructions and statements of penalties, and needed minor corrections to the name of the bill and related statutes.” [Santa Fe New Mexican, 6/10/23]
- **The judge's dismissal order noted that Goolsby's petition did not say who would be authorized to review and decide referendum petitions if the secretary of state does not have that authority.** “The judge's dismissal order says the petition could not go forward ‘until the defects are corrected.’ It also notes Goolsby's petition does not say who would be authorized to review and decide referendum petitions if the secretary of state does not have that authority.” [Santa Fe New Mexican, 6/10/23]

After the case, Goolsby filed an ethics complaint against the New Mexico Secretary of State and a judicial complaint against Judge James Noel. “This week a leader of the statewide referendum effort, Ramona Goolsby, filed an ethics complaint against the New Mexico Secretary of State for dereliction of duty, malicious abuse of process, and abuse of power. Goolsby also filed a judicial complaint against District 13 Judge, James Noel, for improperly closing a case dealing with the referendum, apparently for purposes of a media campaign to discredit the effort. The complaints are the latest response by the organizers of the referendum effort to combat what they say are failures of the SOS to perform her duty to properly support the constitutional right of the people to challenge laws passed by the legislature at the ballot box. The organizers allege that the SOS has purposely misinformed the public about the referendum process to serve her personal political agenda.” [Estancia News, [6/16/23](#)]

- **Goolsby accused the SOS of dereliction of duty, malicious abuse of process, and abuse of power.** “This week a leader of the statewide referendum effort, Ramona Goolsby, filed an ethics complaint against the New Mexico Secretary of State for dereliction of duty, malicious abuse of process, and abuse of power. Goolsby also filed a judicial complaint against District 13 Judge, James Noel, for improperly closing a case dealing with the referendum, apparently for purposes of a media campaign to discredit the effort. The complaints are the latest response by the organizers of the referendum effort to combat what they say are failures of the SOS to perform her duty to properly support the constitutional right of the people to challenge laws passed by the legislature at the ballot box. The organizers allege that the SOS has purposely misinformed the public about the referendum process to serve her personal political agenda.” [Estancia News, [6/16/23](#)]
- **According to the right-wing outlet Estancia News, Goolsby filed a judicial complaint against the judge for “improperly closing a case dealing with the referendum, apparently for purposes of a media campaign to discredit the effort.”** “This week a leader of the

statewide referendum effort, Ramona Goolsby, filed an ethics complaint against the New Mexico Secretary of State for dereliction of duty, malicious abuse of process, and abuse of power. Goolsby also filed a judicial complaint against District 13 Judge, James Noel, for improperly closing a case dealing with the referendum, apparently for purposes of a media campaign to discredit the effort. The complaints are the latest response by the organizers of the referendum effort to combat what they say are failures of the SOS to perform her duty to properly support the constitutional right of the people to challenge laws passed by the legislature at the ballot box. The organizers allege that the SOS has purposely misinformed the public about the referendum process to serve her personal political agenda.” [Estancia News, [6/16/23](#)]

- **In her ethics complaint, Goolsby claimed the SOS had purposely failed to perform her duty to support citizens who legally initiated the referendum process.** “Ramona Goolsby alleges in her ethics complaint that the SOS has purposely failed to perform her duty to support citizens who legally initiated the referendum process. Goolsby alleges the SOS is serving her own political agenda and attempting to weaponize the judicial process and the press against the citizens they took an oath to serve.” [Estancia News, [6/16/23](#)]
- **Goolsby accused the SOS of serving her own political agenda and attempting to weaponize the judicial process and the press against.** “Ramona Goolsby alleges in her ethics complaint that the SOS has purposely failed to perform her duty to support citizens who legally initiated the referendum process. Goolsby alleges the SOS is serving her own political agenda and attempting to weaponize the judicial process and the press against the citizens they took an oath to serve.” [Estancia News, [6/16/23](#)]

Campaign Finance Complaints

2024: The New Mexico Ethics Commission settled with Lt. Gov. Howie Morales regarding a complaint from Goolsby regarding possible campaign finance violations dating back as far as 2013, including Morales’ failure to report a contribution from a PAC. “The state Ethics Commission agreed to settlements in two cases involving questions about whether two officials - one Democrat, one Republican - violated provisions of the state's campaign finance report laws. [...] In the second case, the commission said it has settled with Lt. Gov. Howie Morales regarding a complaint from Ramona L. Goolsby of Rio Rancho regarding some possible violations dating back as far as 2013 and including his failure to report a contribution from a political action committee. The commission said Morales has since amended his campaign reports to correct discrepancies and comply with the state's Campaign Reporting Act, which led the commission to consider the complaint settled.” [Santa Fe New Mexican, 2/6/24]

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Campaign

2026: Goolsby was unopposed in the Republican primary for New Mexico Secretary of State.

“Three people - Santa Fe County Clerk Katharine Clark, Doña Ana County Clerk Amanda López Askin and former Department of Veterans Service Cabinet Secretary Sonya Smith - are seeking the Democratic nomination to succeed Toulouse Oliver. On the GOP side Ramona Goolsby of Rio Rancho is seeking the Secretary of State nomination unopposed.” [Santa Fe New Mexican, 2/4/26]

According to the Santa Fe New Mexican’s review of campaign reports filed in July 2026, Goolsby had raised almost \$11,000 in mostly small individual contributions. “Ramona Goolsby, who ran unopposed in the Republican primary, started the reporting period with about \$47,400, raised almost \$11,000 in mostly small individual contributions, spent about \$4,500 and closed with almost \$54,000.” [Santa Fe New Mexican, 7/4/26]

PHILOSOPHY

Goolsby's website said she is running to “protect election integrity, enforce election finance statutes, and bring real transparency to New Mexico's government.” “Her announcement came ahead of the GOP Pre-Primary Convention, March 6-7, where she received 408 votes as an unopposed candidate. Goolsby's website said she is running to ‘protect election integrity, enforce election finance statutes, and bring real transparency to New Mexico's government.’” [Albuquerque Journal, 3/11/26]

When asked about her relevant life experience in a candidate questionnaire, Goolsby said: “I have a working knowledge of the complex process that runs the elections system. Such as the center for accountability (GABI) obtains statewide voter rolls for analysis, voter integrity.” “Relevant life experience: I have a working knowledge of the complex process that runs the elections system. Such as the center for accountability (GABI) obtains statewide voter rolls for analysis, voter integrity” [Santa Fe New Mexican, 5/4/26]

When asked what made her the best candidate for the job, Goolsby cited her “proven leadership skills (military, medical practice, business owner)” and noted that she was not a career politician. “What makes you the best qualified candidate for the job? What makes me most qualified, proven leadership skills (military, medical practice, business owner). Not a career politician.” [Santa Fe New Mexican, 5/4/26]

2026: At the GOP’s pre-primary convention, said it was her first time attending a political convention. “Goolsby, who is running for secretary of state, said it was her first time attending a political convention. She is currently a member of the Ciudad Soil and Water Conservation District Board, with a background as a family nurse practitioner.” [Albuquerque Journal, 3/8/26]

- **She said the experience was an eye-opening view into the "machine" of party politics; yet she vowed to stay focused on public service and listen to voters.** “She said the experience was an eye-opening view into the ‘machine’ of party politics; yet she vowed to stay focused on public service and listen to voters.” [Albuquerque Journal, 3/8/26]
- **Goolsby: “What I've heard from people is, they are tired of people within the machine continually not representing them. I know there is a purpose for the machine, except when the machine loses track of the people.”** ““What I've heard from people is, they are tired of people within the machine continually not representing them,” she said. ‘I know there is a

purpose for the machine, except when the machine loses track of the people.” [Albuquerque Journal, 3/8/26]

Goolsby vowed to modernize the SOS office's “digital infrastructure to streamline business registrations, cutting the bureaucratic red tape that currently hinders New Mexico's entrepreneurs.” “What changes would you implement to improve operations at the Secretary of State's Office? To improve operations, I would prioritize rigorous, frequent maintenance of voter rolls to ensure list accuracy and restore public trust. I would also modernize the office's digital infrastructure to streamline business registrations, cutting the bureaucratic red tape that currently hinders New Mexico's entrepreneurs. Finally, I would shift the office toward a neutral, transparent watchdog model that prioritizes legal adherence over partisan management.” [Santa Fe New Mexican, 5/4/26]

Goolsby vowed to shift the SOS office “toward a neutral, transparent watchdog model that prioritizes legal adherence over partisan management.” “What changes would you implement to improve operations at the Secretary of State's Office? To improve operations, I would prioritize rigorous, frequent maintenance of voter rolls to ensure list accuracy and restore public trust. I would also modernize the office's digital infrastructure to streamline business registrations, cutting the bureaucratic red tape that currently hinders New Mexico's entrepreneurs. Finally, I would shift the office toward a neutral, transparent watchdog model that prioritizes legal adherence over partisan management.” [Santa Fe New Mexican, 5/4/26]

ELECTIONS & VOTING

Election Integrity

2026: Goolsby said “Increasing voter turnout can only be achieved when people feel confident in the system, and right now, people have told me they don't feel confident.” “How would you boost voter turnout? Increasing voter turnout can only be achieved when people feel confident in the system, and right now, people have told me they don't feel confident.” [Santa Fe New Mexican, 5/4/26]

2024: Goolsby claimed there were “significant failures in the ‘same day registration’ (SDR) system on Election Day.” Goolsby: “As another election season concludes, New Mexicans are left with mixed emotions. Working as a clerk on November 5th, I witnessed the excitement on voters’ faces as they came in to cast their ballots. People lined up even before the polls opened at 7 a.m., and despite significant failures in the ‘same day registration’ (SDR) system on Election Day, many stood in line for up to four hours without complaint. By the end of the evening, there was a palpable shift in the national landscape, and a sense of relief as voters felt unburdened by what had been.” [Estancia News, [11/18/24](#)]

2024: Goolsby said she invited a Washington Post reporter to the Sandoval County canvass to witness what she described as “the significant systemic failures that characterize New Mexico’s elections.” Goolsby: “A few weeks before Election Day, the Washington Post turned its spotlight on Sandoval County. Reporter Peter Jamison came to investigate what he referred to as election chaos in New Mexico. I invited him to return for the county canvass so he could witness the very ‘lore’ he had dismissed—the significant systemic failures that characterize New Mexico’s elections.” [Estancia News, [11/18/24](#)]

2024: Goolsby called into question why Sandoval County recorded 399 fewer votes in the presidential race, saying “Did 399 people go to the polls and not vote for the President? An undervote/overvote report might explain this discrepancy, but none has been provided.” Goolsby:

“Discrepancies also surfaced between the total votes cast and precinct-level data. According to unofficial results from the Secretary of State, Sandoval County recorded 79,894 total votes, yet only 79,495 votes were cast in the presidential race—a shortfall of 399 votes. Did 399 people go to the polls and not vote for the President? An undervote/overvote report might explain this discrepancy, but none has been provided.” [Estancia News, [11/18/24](#)]

Mail-In Ballots

Goolsby said New Mexico’s permanent absentee mail-in ballot system was “not as secure as the public deserves” and thousands of deceased people and people who have moved receiving ballots.”

“The candidates also clashed on permanent absentee mail-in ballots, with Goolsby saying the system is ‘not as secure as the public deserves’ and thousands of deceased people and people who have moved receiving ballots.” [Santa Fe New Mexican, 4/22/26]

2026: Goolsby said SCOTUS’ ruling in *Watson v. Republican National Committee* “reinforces that states like ours have broad authority to design systems that ensure every eligible vote is counted accurately and on time, while preventing the uncertainty of prolonged ballot counting.” “As the Republican nominee for New Mexico Secretary of State, I remain committed to election security with practical accessibility. This ruling reinforces that states like ours have broad authority to design systems that ensure every eligible vote is counted accurately and on time, while preventing the uncertainty of prolonged ballot counting. New Mexico’s current framework—combined with same-day registration, early voting, and secure absentee processes—balances access and finality.” [Estancia News, [7/1/26](#)]

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SAVE Act

Goolsby said she had qualms with several key provisions of the SAVE ACT, such as the requirements to register with certain documents and the absentee voting ban. “Republican candidate Ramona Goolsby told Source NM she has qualms with several key provisions of the SAVE ACT, such as the requirements to register with certain documents and the absentee voting ban. However, she said she ‘agreed with some measures in the bill,’ particularly requirements to show voter ID at the polls. ‘I don’t think that it is necessarily a danger to democracy,’ she said.” [Source New Mexico, 3/27/26]

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Goolsby on the SAVE Act: “I don't think that it is necessarily a danger to democracy.” “Republican candidate Ramona Goolsby told Source NM she has qualms with several key provisions of the SAVE ACT, such as the requirements to register with certain documents and the absentee voting ban. However, she said she 'agreed with some measures in the bill,' particularly requirements to show voter ID at the polls. 'I don't think that it is necessarily a danger to democracy,' she said.” [Source New Mexico, 3/27/26]

Voter ID

When asked if she supported requiring voters to show ID, Goolsby said “Yes, common-sense voter ID is an 80/20 issue even in New Mexico.” “Do you support requiring voters to show some form of identification at the polls? Why or why not? Yes, common-sense voter ID is an 80/20 issue even in New Mexico.” [Santa Fe New Mexican, 5/4/26]

During a debate, Goolsby said stricter voter identification laws are necessary, along with removing ineligible voters from the rolls. “Goolsby, who lives in Rio Rancho and is on the Ciudad Soil and Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors, said stricter voter identification laws are necessary, along with removing ineligible voters from the rolls.” [Santa Fe New Mexican, 4/22/26]

Goolsby said when she worked with the clerks in statewide elections, people were “taken aback” when told they didn’t need their card to vote. “She said when she has worked with the clerks in statewide elections, ‘People come in, and they want to hand me their card, and I tell them, 'We don't need it.' They're really, actually, taken aback.’” [Santa Fe New Mexican, 4/22/26]

Voter Rolls

Goolsby vowed to “prioritize rigorous, frequent maintenance of voter rolls to ensure list accuracy and restore public trust.” “What changes would you implement to improve operations at the Secretary of State's Office? To improve operations, I would prioritize rigorous, frequent maintenance of voter rolls to ensure list accuracy and restore public trust. I would also modernize the office's digital infrastructure to streamline business registrations, cutting the bureaucratic red tape that currently hinders New Mexico's entrepreneurs. Finally, I would shift the office toward a neutral, transparent watchdog model that prioritizes legal adherence over partisan management.” [Santa Fe New Mexican, 5/4/26]

Goolsby: “Providing full access [to New Mexico’s voter registration database] to the Department of Justice is necessary to ensure New Mexico is complying with federal laws like the National Voter Registration Act.” “Should New Mexico provide the U.S. Department of Justice full access to its statewide voter registration database? Providing full access to the Department of Justice is necessary to ensure New Mexico is complying with federal laws like the National Voter Registration Act. Federal oversight helps identify potential noncitizen registrations and ensures that voter lists are maintained

accurately across state lines, which ultimately strengthens the integrity of the national electoral system.” [Santa Fe New Mexican, 5/4/26]

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Goolsby said the top concern she hears about is “voter rolls not being as clean and pristine as they should be,” and claimed people who have moved or died are still on the rolls in large numbers. “The top concern she hears about, she told the audience, is ‘voter rolls not being as clean and pristine as they should be,’ and said people who have moved or died are still on the rolls in large numbers.” [Santa Fe New Mexican, 4/22/26]

Goolsby: “I think in the first year that we should go ahead and look through, modernize our voter rolls, use quantum computing and help the county clerks and the board of registrars go through and make sure all of our voters are eligible, that the addresses are correct.” “I think in the first year that we should go ahead and look through, modernize our voter rolls, use quantum computing and help the county clerks and the board of registrars go through and make sure all of our voters are eligible, that the addresses are correct,” Goolsby added.” [Santa Fe New Mexican, 4/22/26]

ENVIRONMENT

May 2026: Goolsby did not attend a candidate forum held by San Agustin Water Coalition which focused on data centers and water management. “The SAWC said they invited all national and statewide candidates from both parties to speak with some declining, having conflicts or not responding. Ramona Goolsby, candidate for Secretary of State did not attend but did have a representative read an introduction.” [Albuquerque Journal, 5/12/26]

Goolsby claimed to champion “urban stormwater capture, soil health initiatives, and strict fiscal accountability for public funds” on the Ciudad Soil and Water Conservation Board. “In November 2025, she was elected to the Ciudad Soil and Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors, where she champions urban stormwater capture, soil health initiatives, and strict fiscal accountability for public funds.” [Ramonanm.com, accessed [7/23/26](#)]

Goolsby’s bio on the Ciudad Soil and Water Conservation Board’s website said she believed “environmental health is foundational to personal and public health, with clean water and healthy soils supporting safe drinking water, sustainable food production, and resilient communities.” “She believes environmental health is foundational to personal and public health, with clean water and healthy soils supporting safe drinking water, sustainable food production, and resilient communities.” [Ciudad Soil & Water Conservation District, accessed [7/23/26](#)]

CHOICE

2023: Goolsby wrote an email claiming the statewide movement to repeal New Mexico's HB7, which protected abortion and gender-affirming care, was "amazing and bigger than any group. It is synergistic. The coalition was formed because we love God, our families, our children, life and the freedom to make our own decisions about how we take care of and honor what we love."

"Goolsby wrote in an email Friday the statewide movement to repeal the abortion law and others is 'amazing and bigger than any group. It is synergistic. The coalition was formed because we love God, our families, our children, life and the freedom to make our own decisions about how we take care of and honor what we love.'" [Santa Fe New Mexican, 6/10/23]