

The People Behind the Process

Building New Mexico's Budget

This is the fourth installation of a five-part series called The People Behind the Process – Building New Mexico's Budget. Part three can be found [here](#) and part four is [here](#).



Representative Ambrose Castellano

Biography:

Representative Ambrose Castellano is from Las Vegas and represents House District 70. House District 70 includes portions of Santa Fe, Torrance, and San Miguel Counties. Representative Castellano works as a general contractor and rancher. Ambrose has served over a decade on educational Boards including at both Luna Community College and West Las Vegas School District. Ambrose serves on both the House Appropriations and Finance Committee and Local Government, Land Grants, and Cultural Affairs committee. Representative Castellano is a strong advocate for NM agriculture as one of the few members of the legislature who is directly involved in the industry.

Education:

- High School Diploma



How long have you served on SFC/HAFC? Since I was elected in 2020, so 1 year.

What is your favorite part of serving on the committee? I really appreciate learning how we can assess the needs of rural communities and appropriate money for those needs. I also enjoy learning about the budget and related needs for each agency.

What is the most important thing you have learned while serving on the committee? That the oil and gas industry accounts for such a large share of our state's revenue, these monies fund a large portion of our education and state agency needs.

What do you anticipate for the upcoming 30-day session? We will be working on more water bills, authorizing loans/grants from the water project fund for certain water projects which will help some rural areas with domestic water and sewer infrastructures.

Is there anything else you'd like our membership to be aware of as we enter the upcoming legislative session? I will be fighting for our rural communities, infrastructure, water and acequias, and a better way of living for those I represent and the constituents of the state of NM.