

Toulouse Oliver ends bid for senate seat

Written by Staff Reports

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ALBUQUERQUE - New Mexico Secretary of State Maggie Toulouse Oliver announced that she was ending her campaign for U.S. Senate on Oct. 29.

At that time she released the following statement:

“I’m a fighter. I’ve fought to protect New Mexico’s elections system from foreign interference; I’ve taken on corruption in state government; and I’ve twice stood up to President Trump when he demanded New Mexicans’ personal voter information. I’m not afraid of a tough fight.

That’s why I decided to run for the U.S. Senate. I knew that someone needed to stand up and fight for our progressive values.

When I entered the race for U.S. Senate, I was the only candidate supporting Medicare for All; I was the only candidate rejecting corporate PAC money; and I was the only candidate calling for impeachment. Over the course of this campaign, that has changed. We have elevated the issues of health care as a human right, of holding the president accountable, and of keeping big money out of politics.

With your help, we have made our state and our party more in line with progressive, New

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Mexico values. That's a win for everyone. And while the important ideals and values we fought for will continue on, I've realized that this is not my time. That's why, today [Oct. 29], I'm exiting the race for U.S. Senate.

I know that New Mexico will be in good hands if Ben Ray Luján is our next U.S. Senator. We need Ben Ray in the Senate to stand up for New Mexico and to move our progressive vision forward.

What's more, my work as Secretary of State is more important than ever, especially since Mitch McConnell and the Senate Republicans refuse to take up election security or campaign finance reform legislation.

Nothing matters if we do not have a free and fair democracy. That's why it's critical that I am here in New Mexico, protecting our elections from outside interference or voter suppression. The 2020 election is the most important election of our lifetime. We have to turn the page from Donald Trump and go back to the rule of law and strengthening our democracy. Here in New Mexico, I will keep running the secure and fair elections that the GOP-controlled Senate in D.C. refuses to do.

I'm so proud of everything we have accomplished together."