



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

One Year After Stimulus Passage, New Mexicans Still Looking for Work

Albuquerque, NM – Jon Barela, Republican candidate for New Mexico’s 1st Congressional District, issued the following statement today on the one-year anniversary of the president's signing of the \$787 billion dollar stimulus bill:

“My opponent, Martin Heinrich, supported the so-called stimulus bill, promising in January of last year that it would create jobs and provide 'swift economic relief' for New Mexicans.

Unfortunately, on the most important issue facing our state - high unemployment - Heinrich hasn't delivered. Instead, showing a total lack of independence, he has marched in lock-step behind his party leadership as they have pushed for higher taxes, dramatically increased spending, and supported a costly and distracting domestic agenda that increases the government's role in our daily lives. That's not a recipe for job creation.”

In the one year since Heinrich took office, New Mexico’s unemployment rate has increased by over 75%, and the cost of the stimulus bill has increased far beyond the \$787 billion price-tag that was initially promised. According to an article in the *Washington Times*, “*The cost of President Obama's stimulus plan has jumped another \$75 billion, the Congressional Budget Office said Tuesday, and part of the reason is more people are getting unemployment benefits because they've lost jobs the bill was supposed to preserve.*”

“*The CBO now says the stimulus package, passed by Congress last February, will cost \$862 billion over 10 years because of the added unemployment-related costs. (Stephen Dinan, “Tab From Stimulus Program Jumps, CBO Says,” Washington Times, 1/26/010)*”

"A nation mired in debt and high taxes lacks the financial capability to generate the investment and private sector growth that is necessary to produce good jobs in the United States," continued Barela. "Make no mistake - robust job creation in New Mexico will not occur until we invest in our state's small businesses; they are important drivers of our economy. They deserve tax relief to help them hire workers and expand production, and in order to have confidence in our

country's future economic outlook, they need the federal government to put its fiscal house in order.”

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