

1 SENATE BILL 576

2 **50TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2011**

3 INTRODUCED BY

4 Rod Adair

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10 AN ACT

11 RELATING TO ELECTIONS; PROVIDING FOR FREE SPEECH RIGHTS OF
12 CANDIDATES FOR JUDICIAL OFFICE.

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14 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

15 SECTION 1. A new section of the Election Code is enacted
16 to read:

17 "[NEW MATERIAL] JUDICIAL FREE SPEECH RIGHTS.--

18 A. Notwithstanding any provision of the code of
19 judicial conduct to the contrary, a candidate for judicial
20 office retains all constitutionally protected rights of free
21 speech during the campaign and election process.

22 B. A judicial candidate may exercise the
23 candidate's free speech rights by discussing controversies or
24 issues that are relevant to voters in an election.

25 C. A canon of judicial conduct shall not prohibit

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1 judicial speech based on its content."

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