



State of New Mexico *Office of the Governor*

Bill Richardson
Governor

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Governor Bill Richardson Commends Regents’ Performance

Will no longer require resignation letter

SANTA FE - Governor Bill Richardson, in the last two days, has interviewed candidates for Regent at UNM, NMSU, Western New Mexico, Highlands and New Mexico Tech. His selections will be announced soon.

“After a thorough review of all Regents’ performance in the past two years, the Governor will no longer ask appointees for signed letters of resignation. It is not necessary due to the outstanding performance of his Regent appointments,” Chief of Staff, David Contarino said.

"I am now confident that prospective appointees understand the following: If they are going to work for the people of New Mexico and get my support - their work ethic must be strong and their behavior must be beyond reproach," Governor Richardson said. "Regents must work hard and demonstrate commitment to the institutions they serve. My Regent appointees have strong records of attendance and have made significant contributions to the institutions they serve," Governor Richardson said.

"I am very proud of the Regents I have appointed and the actions they have taken on behalf of their institutions. I have achieved my goal of appointing committed and

hardworking Regents. Therefore, I am ending the practice of requiring a letter of resignation by candidates for Regent," Governor Richardson said.

"In my administration, I have made it clear that I will hold all my employees and all my appointees accountable. Regents are no exception, and the resignation letter was a necessary tool to convey that message when I first came into office. Unfortunately, this caused some consternation and confusion," Governor Richardson said.

It must be noted that the Governor has never invoked a letter of resignation.

"As I move into my third year in office, I will be examining every Board and Commission to make sure they are serving the needs of the people of our state in an efficient and effective manner," Governor Richardson said. "Boards and Commissions that are not serving their purpose and have outlived their usefulness may be eliminated," Governor Richardson said.

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