



State of New Mexico

Office of the Governor

Bill Richardson
Governor

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Governor Bill Richardson's Statement on the Success of the New Mexico Caucus

110,000 Votes Cast

SANTA FE - Governor Bill Richardson made the following remarks at a press conference today in Santa Fe:

“There is no question that New Mexico was the big winner last night. I want to thank the people of New Mexico for their participation in the Presidential caucus.

This morning I learned that 110,000 votes were cast. That is an outstanding achievement for our first presidential caucus.

To put this in perspective, Iowa, which has twice the population of New Mexico, cast only 124,000 votes in their caucus. Our turn out should make us all proud.

I want to congratulate the winner, Senator Kerry who did well in every part of the state. I also want to commend all the campaigns for their efforts. General Clark, Governor Dean and Senator Edwards each ran strong races, built organizations and will, I am sure, never forget New Mexico.

Our issues were heard. Education, water, border security, health care. For the first time Hispanics and Native Americans had a voice and most importantly New Mexicans had a choice.

As Chairman of the Western Governor's Association, I will recommend a Western Regional Primary for 2008. It is time for the West to take its place in the selection process. The success here in New Mexico shows it is good for the state and would greatly benefit the entire region."

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