



State of New Mexico

Office of the Governor

Bill Richardson
Governor

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Governor Bill Richardson looks forward to signing DWI bill

SANTA FE - A bill that clarifies tougher penalties for repeat DWI offenders got the final OK today from the state House of Representatives, and is expected to reach the Governor's Office soon. Governor Bill Richardson said he looks forward to signing the bill as soon as a legal review is complete.

"It is unfortunate that two members of the Court of Appeals forced us to pass the same bill twice, despite overwhelming evidence that the Legislature and I intended tougher DWI penalties last year," Governor Bill Richardson said. "Nevertheless, we're sending an unmistakable message - both to drunk drivers and to the state's judiciary - that the people of New Mexico demand and expect tough sentences for repeat DWI offenders."

"With these tough sentences in place, along with more vigilant enforcement, I expect to see DWI arrests continue to go up, and alcohol-related fatalities to go down."

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