



# State of New Mexico

## *Office of the Governor*

**Bill Richardson**  
Governor

**News Release**

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## **Governor Bill Richardson Meets With Three BRAC Commissioners in the Next Three Days**

### **Governor Schedules Phone Call With BRAC Chairman Principi**

Santa Fe: Governor Bill Richardson is meeting with former Congressman and BRAC, (Base Realignment and Closing) Commissioner, James Hansen, this morning in Salt Lake City, UT.

“I pledged to meet with each of the nine Commissioners to personally convey to them the military and economic importance of keeping Cannon Air Force Base. I will continue to convey my total opposition to the decision of Defense Secretary Rumsfeld to close Cannon Air Force Base. Our military pilots need to be able to train over mountains and plains. The Air Force needs supersonic airspace for these training missions. The Pentagon analysis was flawed and the actual economic impact on the area is much more extensive than reported. Keeping Cannon open is in the best interest of our national security and in the best interests of New Mexico. That is my message to the Commissioners. The Commissioners will see the deep and unending support in New Mexico by all our elected officials for Cannon Air Force Base when they come to Clovis for the BRAC hearing on June 24, 2005. But, I want to tell each Commissioner face to face how important this decision is to our state and to the national defense. I will go

anywhere and do anything to defend Cannon Air Force Base and fight for Eastern New Mexico.” Governor Richardson said.

Governor Richardson will also meet with Utah Governor Jon Huntsman in Salt Lake City and will return to Santa Fe this afternoon.

The Governor has scheduled a phone call with BRAC Commission Chairman Anthony Principi this afternoon.

Tomorrow Governor Richardson plans to meet with BRAC Commissioner Sue Ellen Turner. Hanson Scott, Chair of the state Commission and Lt. Governor Diane Denish will also join him for the meeting.

This Sunday, June 12, Governor Richardson will travel to Las Vegas, Nevada to meet with BRAC Commissioner and former Congressman, James Bilbray.

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