



State of New Mexico

Office of the Governor

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New Mexico Governor Bill Richardson and Nuevo Leon Governor Gonzalez Paras Enter Into New Partnership

Agreements will stimulate economic development in U.S. and Mexico

Monterrey, Mexico-New Mexico Governor Bill Richardson and Nuevo Leon Governor Jose Natividad Gonzalez Paras signed two agreements today aimed at jump-starting bilateral trade between the two states, which will create jobs and diversify the economy for New Mexicans and Mexicans alike.

The first agreement sets out a specific agenda to sponsor trade missions to Santa Fe, New Mexico and Monterrey, Nuevo Leon in order to promote trade fairs in each city. The agreement also allows for departments of tourism in both states to promote each other as travel and convention destinations. Finally, it explores ways New Mexico can become a distribution center for Nuevo Leon's products throughout the western United States.

"This agreement recognizes the enormous potential for cooperation as both states work to create high-wage jobs," Governor Bill Richardson said. "This partnership should lead to new industries, attract new companies, and increase quality jobs on both sides of the border."

"We look forward to working with New Mexico Governor Bill Richardson to strengthen our relations with the United States," said Governor Gonzalez Paras. "Creating economic diversity within our region is key to the success for our businesses and economies."

The second agreement takes advantage of two of the leading research and development institutions in the region - the University of New Mexico in Albuquerque and Tecnológico de Monterrey (ITESM) in Monterrey. State and university leaders will cooperate to promote economic development through research and commercialization of technology in areas such as microelectronics, microsystems, nanotechnology, computer engineering, information technology and biotechnology. This partnership will facilitate

exchanges between professors at both institutions and allow collaborative research, teaching and graduate student involvement.

"By working together and joining our intellectual resources, we will be able to achieve more significant breakthroughs with new technology-and these breakthroughs are essential to developing new companies and new jobs," Governor Bill Richardson said.