



State of New Mexico

Office of the Governor

Bill Richardson
Governor

News Release

Governor Bill Richardson Statement on Senate Action Killing Anti-Corruption Bill

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SANTA FE- Governor Bill Richardson today issued the following statement regarding Senate action today that effectively killed Senate Bill 722. The bill, sponsored by Senator Jerry Ortiz y Pino, would have provided more direct oversight and review of activities and investments of the State Treasurer's office which has been plagued by a corruption scandal.

"I am enormously disappointed, and frankly shocked by the Senate's action. Apparently Republicans and a few Democrats in the Senate think it's acceptable to ignore the recommendations of the LFC, an independent auditor, and a bi-partisan task force and not fix the conditions that led to corruption in the Treasurer's Office. The legislators must now answer to their constituents and the financial community and explain why they voted to keep business as usual instead of taking action to protect taxpayer money and restore the public trust. My question is what is the Senate's plan to deal with this critical issue? The public demands, and deserves to know."

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