



State of New Mexico

Office of the Governor

Bill Richardson
Governor

News Release

Governor Bill Richardson Accepts Resignation of CYFD Secretary Mary-Dale Bolson

Lt. Governor Diane Denish to lead search for new Secretary

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SANTA FE- Governor Bill Richardson announced today he has accepted the resignation of Children, Youth, and Families Department Secretary Mary-Dale Bolson, who has led the agency since January 2003. He also announced Lt. Governor Diane Denish, who chairs the Children's Cabinet, will direct the search for a new Secretary.

"Mary-Dale Bolson is a strong advocate for New Mexico's children and families, and as Secretary she has helped move CYFD forward," said Governor Richardson. "She is a valuable member of my administration, however I understand and accept her personal decision to resign and I am happy that she will stay on to assist in the transition."

The Governor and Secretary Bolson are discussing her new role within the administration and plan to make an announcement soon.

Governor Richardson said in addition to finding a new Secretary for CYFD he is considering a significant reorganization of the department.

"I believe the complexity of CYFD and the ongoing challenges facing the agency require a new, more team-oriented management structure," said the Governor. "I've asked the Lieutenant Governor to review the department's current management positions and responsibilities and consider how they can be integrated into a new, more effective and responsive organization."

Governor Richardson has already begun consideration of possible candidates for the position of Cabinet Secretary, and will look to the Lt. Governor for her recommendations before making a final decision.

“Lt. Governor Denish, through her important work with the Children’s Cabinet, knows very well the issues surrounding CYFD, as well as the challenges facing our children and families,” said the Governor.

Governor Richardson hopes to announce the appointment within the next two weeks.

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