



# State of New Mexico

## *Office of the Governor*

**Bill Richardson**  
Governor

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### **Governor Bill Richardson Speaks with West Virginia Governor about National Guard Deployment to New Mexico Border**

SANTA FE – Governor Bill Richardson today spoke with West Virginia Governor Joe Manchin about Manchin’s decision to allow 86 West Virginia Army National Guard troops to deploy to New Mexico to help secure the U.S.-Mexico border. The troops will be deployed to Deming, N.M., for one year.

“This deployment will help us secure the border and help alleviate the need for additional New Mexico National Guard troops to the border,” Governor Bill Richardson said after his phone call with Governor Manchin. “I am committed to ensuring that our National Guard troops available immediately to respond to forest fires and other potential natural disasters that threaten New Mexico this summer.”

Gov. Joe Manchin signed a memorandum allowing the guardsmen to be deployed for one year to serve as United States border surveillance in New Mexico. The 86 troops will be deployed from Charleston, W. Va.

With the addition of the West Virginia troops, New Mexico now has a commitment of 447 troops who will participate in Operation Jump Start. The State of Georgia deployed 150 National Guard troops to New Mexico on June 27.

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