



For immediate release
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Governor Bill Richardson Opposes Tax Increase for Railrunner

SANTA FE – Governor Bill Richardson said today that he will not support the idea of a gross receipts tax increase to pay for operations of the Railrunner.

The idea was pitched by Transportation Secretary Rhonda Faught as one way to pay for future operations of the Railrunner. The Railrunner trains and tracks are being paid for with GRIP money passed by the Legislature and signed by the Governor in 2003. Currently, operations for the Railrunner are being funded with federal money during the first three years.

“Governor Richardson is not interested in a tax increase to pay for the operation of the Railrunner,” said Gilbert Gallegos, a spokesman for the Governor. “The Railrunner expansion will move forward as planned, and the Governor expects to consider different options, other than a tax increase, to pay for its operations in the future.”

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