



STATE OF NEW MEXICO
GOVERNOR BILL RICHARDSON



For Immediate Release
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Contact: Carrie B. Moritomo
505.250.3926

Governor Richardson Signs Extended Unemployment Benefits Package for New Mexicans

SANTA FE – Governor Bill Richardson has signed the federal extension of Unemployment Insurance Benefits package. The agreement calls for the federal government to provide necessary dollars to states to extend unemployment insurance benefits to eligible individuals. This package allows eligible unemployed New Mexicans to receive up to 13 additional weeks of unemployment insurance benefits.

“Job seekers and their families are being put in a difficult position as they face a tightening job market while paying more than ever for gas, food and other goods,” Governor Richardson said. “With this extension we can offer some relief by helping them bridge the widening financial gap as they search for work.”

Emergency unemployment compensation benefits will be available to individuals who have exhausted regular unemployment compensation under state law. Individuals who are potentially eligible will receive a letter from the NM Department of Workforce Solutions with instructions on how to re-engage their benefits.

Claimants may file for extended benefits by calling (505) 841-4000 beginning today. Extended benefit claims cannot be filed online.

In order to meet the increased volume of applicants, the NM Department of Workforce Solutions will be extending its Unemployment Insurance Benefits Call Center hours starting Monday, July 7 – Friday July 25, 2008, to include:

Monday – Thursday	7 a.m. – 6 p.m.
Friday	7 a.m. – 4 p.m.
Saturday, July 12 & 19	8 a.m. – 4 p.m.
Sunday, July 13	8 a.m. – 4 p.m.

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