



For Immediate Release  
July 28, 2008

Contact: Alarie Ray-Garcia  
(505) 231-7350

## **Governor Bill Richardson Highlights 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Back-to-School Tax Holiday**

Tax-Free Weekend is August 1-3, 2008

SANTA FE –Governor Bill Richardson today reminded all New Mexicans that they will be able to take advantage of the 4th annual tax holiday which starts this Friday and runs through Sunday.

“In just a few years, the Back-to-School Tax Holiday has grown in popularity becoming one of the most anticipated events of the year,” Governor Bill Richardson said. “This is an important savings program for New Mexico families who are expected to save an estimated \$4.6 million over the three-day holiday.”

A national survey finds the average family with school aged children will spend \$594 on back-to-school purchases. A New Mexico family spending that much could save \$42 on those purchases this weekend.

Nontaxable items include: clothing and footwear this is \$100 or less; school supplies such as pens and paper \$15 or less; computers \$1000 or less; as well as assorted computer equipment \$500 or less. The price limits are for each item – not the total amount spent for all purchases. For example, a family could purchase three computers tax-free as long as each computer does not exceed the \$1000.

Governor Richardson is also calling on lawmakers to pass his CARE Package when they convene for the special session in August. In the package, the Governor is proposing expanding the Back-to-School tax holiday starting next year to 10 days and increasing the dollar limits on certain items. Governor Richardson is also calling for a one-time only, 10-day Tax Holiday for the Holidays that would run November 28, 2008 through December 7, 2008.

Details on the Back-to-School Tax holiday, including which items are excluded from gross receipts tax, can be found on the state Taxation and Revenue web site:

<http://www.tax.state.nm.us>