

3/10/14



Gov. Martinez Signs Community Health Workers Act - *The Associated Press*

Legislation that would create a state certification program for all community health workers in New Mexico will become law.

Gov. Susana Martinez signed off on the legislation Sunday afternoon after participating in a discussion with several health workers in Albuquerque.

The bill creates voluntary community health worker training that would be the standard statewide.

Martinez says community health workers are an important piece of the health care workforce, particularly in rural and underserved areas of New Mexico.

Supporters say better trained community health workers could help with the state's shortage of health care providers.

The certification would make community health workers eligible to be reimbursed by insurance plans and even Medicaid for certain services.

Officials: Air Testing At Nuclear Dump Shows No Contamination - *The Associated Press*

The U.S. Department of Energy says new air testing in the nation's only underground nuclear repository shows no detectable radioactive contamination from a leak last month.

Officials at the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant near Carlsbad said Sunday that instruments used to measure air quality and radioactivity were sent underground Friday and Saturday in the first step to resuming operations at the plant.

They say initial results indicate no contamination in the air or on the measuring equipment.

Federal officials say four more employees have tested positive for low levels of contamination, adding to the 13 tested immediately after the leak.

Authorities say none should suffer health effects.

WIPP officials say they may send personnel into the mine next week.

Sensors alerted officials to a release of radiation on Feb. 14.

New Mexico to Proclaim 'Tibet Day' - *The Associated Press*

New Mexico plans to celebrate the anniversary of Tibet's rebellion against China