

News
From _____

CONGRESSMAN

Nick Rahall

WEST VIRGINIA-4th DISTRICT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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WASHINGTON D.C. --- U.S. REPRESENTATIVE NICK J. RAHALL, (D-4TH), SAID TODAY THAT ACTION IS BEING TAKEN ON LEGISLATION THAT COULD MEAN ADDITIONAL FEDERAL DOLLARS FOR WEST VIRGINIA HIGHWAYS.

RAHALL ANNOUNCED, THAT HEARINGS WOULD BE HELD TODAY BY THE SURFACE TRANSPORTATION SUBCOMMITTEE OF THE HOUSE PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE, ON HR 3746, A BILL THAT WOULD INCREASE THE BASIC FEDERAL SHARE OF APPALACHIAN HIGHWAY PROJECT COSTS. RAHALL IS MEMBER OF THE SUBCOMMITTEE AND PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE.

CONGRESSMAN RAHALL STATED, "UNDER EXISTING LAW, THE BASIC FEDERAL SHARE OF HIGHWAY PROJECT COSTS IS 50%, WITH THE PROVISIO THAT THE FEDERAL ASSISTANCE BE INCREASED TO 70% WHEREVER THE APPALACHIAN REGIONAL COMMISSION DETERMINES THAT SUCH NEED EXISTS."

HR 3746, WOULD INCREASE THE BASIC FEDERAL SHARE TO THE 70%, AND AS RAHALL POINTED OUT, "WOULD ALLOW A FURTHER INCREASE OF THE FEDERAL SHARE TO 90%."

"THIS BILL WOULD MEAN A GREAT DEAL TO THE STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA," RAHALL STATED, "IT WOULD GIVE US THE NECESSARY BOOST IN UP-GRADING A HIGHWAY SYSTEM THAT IS INADEQUATE FOR THE NEEDS OF OUR RESIDENTS."

RAHALL WENT ON, "BY INCREASING THE AMOUNT THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT CAN CONTRIBUTE TO THE APPALACHIAN HIGHWAY PROJECTS, THE ENTIRE SYSTEM'S COMPLETION WILL BE EXPEDITED. IT WOULD ALSO TAKE AN EXTREME AMOUNT OF PRESSURE OFF WEST VIRGINIA'S BUDGET."

"FOR TOO LONG APPALACHIA HAS NOT RECEIVED ITS' FAIR SHARE IN FEDERAL DOLLARS. WEST VIRIGNIA RESIDENTS PAY THEIR TAXES JUST LIKE EVERY OTHER AMERICAN, AND ALL TOO OFTEN THEY ARE SHORT-CHANGED, CONGRESSMAN RAHALL SAID. "THIS MUCH NEEDED LEGISLATION WOULD BRING MORE OF OUR TAX DOLLARS BACK TO WHERE THEY ARE NEEDED THE MOST, INSTEAD OF SENDING LARGE SUMS OF AMERICAN DOLLARS OVERSEES."

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