

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), WILL MEET TODAY AT THE WHITE HOUSE WITH PRESIDENT JIMMY CARTER TO DISCUSS MATTERS RELATING TO THE FLOODING THAT HIT SOUTHERN WEST VIRGINIA IN EARLY APRIL.

RAHALL INTENDS TO DELIVER SOME 600 LETTERS FROM CONSTITUENTS WHO EXPERIENCED DIFFICULTIES IN OBTAINING DISASTER ASSISTANCE FROM THE FEDERAL AGENCIES ON THE SCENE.

CONGRESSMAN RAHALL POINTED OUT, "I BELIEVE IT IS EXTREMELY IMPORTANT THAT THE PRESIDENT SEES THE FIRST-HAND ACCOUNTS OF THE RED TAPE AND FRUSTRATION THE FLOOD VICTIMS HAVE EXPERIENCED."

"IF OUR GOVERNMENT TRULY EXPECTS TO BE RESPONSIVE TO THE NEEDS OF THE PEOPLE, EVERYONE WHO PLAYS A ROLE IN THE DECISION-MAKING PROCESS MUST KNOW HOW THE WELL THE GOVERNMENT FUNCTIONS. THEREFORE I KNOW OF NO BETTER PERSON IN THE NATION TO HEAR THE PROBLEMS OF THE TUG VALLEY RESIDENTS, THAN PRESIDENT CARTER," RAHALL STATED.

ANOTHER TOPIC OF DISCUSSION AT THE MEETING, WILL BE RAHALL'S BILL WHICH WOULD LOWER DISASTER LOAN INTEREST RATES FROM 6 5/8% TO 3%. RAHALL OBSERVED, "MR. CARTER'S SUPPORT FOR THIS LEGISLATION IS VERY IMPORTANT, SINCE HE COULD ADD THE BIG PUSH THAT WE NEED TO GET THE MEASURE THROUGH CONGRESS."

CONGRESSMAN RAHALL WILL ALSO BRING TO THE PRESIDENT'S ATTENTION, THE BLACK LUNG REFORM ACT OF 1977, THAT HAS BEEN HELD UP IN THE HOUSE RULES COMMITTEE FOR OVER A MONTH. "THE ADMINISTRATION HAS YET TO COME OUT WITH A POSITION ON THIS MEASURE," RAHALL SAID, "AND I AM HOPEFUL THAT HE WILL ALSO GIVE US HIS SUPPORT ON THIS VERY IMPORTANT BILL, WHICH MEANS SO MUCH TO NOT ONLY THE PEOPLE OF WEST VIRGINIA, BUT TO MINERS AND THEIR FAMILIES ALL OVER THE NATION."

CONGRESSMAN RAHALL WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR QUESTIONS AFTER HIS MEETING WITH THE PRESIDENT AT 10 AM.