

News
From _____

CONGRESSMAN

Nick Rahall

WEST VIRGINIA-4th DISTRICT

For Immediate Release
April 29, 1977

Contact: Mike Serpe
202-225-3452

Washington D.C. --- U.S. Representative Nick J. Rahall (D-4th), has introduced legislation in the House of Representatives that would provide both short and long-term relief to the flood victims in the Fourth Congressional District of which he represents.

The first measure Rahall submitted, HR 6705, would amend the Flood Control Act of 1954 so that upon the request of a State's Governor or an appropriate local governmental official, the Army Corps of Engineers would set up snagging and clearing projects along navigable streams and rivers at the expense of the Federal government.

The second measure, HR 6704, would have long term benefits. Rahall said, "This bill would authorize the design and construction of floodwalls, levees and other facilities necessary for flood protection.

"The contruction and design would be at Federal Government expense," Rahall pointed out. "The communities to be designated in southern West Virginia for flood protection, would be Williamson and Matewan."

Rahall said that floodwalls and levees would be built on the Tug Fork of the Big Sandy River. "The Army Corps of Engineers would be responsible to see that protective facilities were put in place to prevent any future losses to these communities from the likelihood of flooding such as occurred recently," Rahall stated.

In regards to Congressman Rahall's legislation to lower disaster loan interest rates, HR 6567, the Beckley Democrat said, "My contacts with the members of the House Committee on Small Business have intensified because the members are just not responsive to lowering the interest rates at the present time."

In conclusion, Congressman Rahall vowed to continue his efforts until the measure is approved.

-30-