

News
From _____

CONGRESSMAN

Nick Rahall

WEST VIRGINIA-4th DISTRICT

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Williamson, West Virginia --- Fourth District Congressman Nick J. Rahall, today called upon both sides in the N & W Railway strike to, "Intensify their efforts for a negotiated settlement, or call in federal mediators." Rahall made his statement at a Town Hall meeting in Williamson.

Congressman Rahall pointed out that, "Already 4,500 railway clerks are out of work, with 20,000 other N & W employees being idled. What is worse, 15,000 miners in areas where the railroad is a major coal carrier have been put out of work."

"The effects of this strike are having a severe impact on the economy of southern West Virginia," Rahall said. "Our region of the country just cannot stand the ramifications of another long term strike."

Congressman Rahall also called for a Congressional Investigation into mutual aid pacts, which could aiding management in this dispute. Rahall stated that there is, "Railroad strike insurance programs under which, in certain circumstances, struck railroads are indemnified against losses occassioned by a strike."

Congressman Rahall expalined that railroads providing the N & W with financial assistance could be recipients of federal financial aid. "I believe that a Congressional Investigation is necessary to see if federal funds are unintentionally being used indirectly to provide a profit for a railroad which is legally struck."

Rahall concluded that quick action is needed, to "Keep the railway strike from expanding to other lines."

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