

News
From _____

CONGRESSMAN

Nick Rahall

WEST VIRGINIA-4th DISTRICT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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WASHINGTON D.C. --- "WITH WINTER APPROACHING," OBSERVED WEST VIRGINIA'S FOURTH DISTRICT CONGRESSMAN NICK J. RAHALL, "MANY AMERICANS WILL PAY MORE TO HEAT THEIR HOMES, THAN TO EAT."

CONGRESSMAN RAHALL'S REMARKS WERE MADE IN EXPRESSING HIS SUPPORT FOR H.J. RES. 430, A MEASURE THAT WOULD PROVIDE EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE TO HELP THE ELDERLY AND LOW-INCOME FAMILIES PAY HOME HEATING BILLS THIS WINTER.

"ACCORDING TO RECENT PROJECTIONS," RAHALL POINTED OUT, "THE AVERAGE HOME HEATING BILL IN SOME STATES WILL INCREASE \$540 THIS YEAR. SOME HOME HEATING OIL CONSUMERS, WHO PAID 50 CENTS A GALLON LAST YEAR, WILL PAY 90 CENTS A GALLON THIS YEAR."

CONGRESSMAN RAHALL STRESSED, "PEOPLE LIVING ON FIXED INCOMES, SUCH AS SOCIAL SECURITY RECIPIENTS, BLACK LUNG VICTIMS, VETERANS, AND RETIREES, JUST WILL NOT BE ABLE TO HEAT THEIR HOMES WITHOUT SOME KIND OF ASSISTANCE THIS WINTER."

"BEING AWARE OF THE HARD-SHIPS MANY WEST VIRGINIA RESIDENTS WILL FACE THIS WINTER AS A RESULT OF RISING HEATING COSTS, I SUPPORT THIS MEASURE," RAHALL STATED.

CONGRESSMAN RAHALL WENT ON TO SAY HOWEVER, "I AM VERY CONCERNED THAT WE MUST PROVIDE ASSISTANCE TO THE ELDERLY AND LOW-INCOME FAMILIES, WHEN BIG OIL COMPANIES ARE MAKING RECORD PROFITS FROM THESE INCREASED PRICES."

"EVERY TIME A BIG OIL COMPANY RAISES ITS PRICES, IT HITS THE AMERICAN PEOPLE RIGHT IN THE POCKETBOOK, AND THAT IS WHY IT IS SO IMPORTANT FOR THE SENATE TO FOLLOW THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES IN PASSING A WIND-FALL PROFITS TAX ON THE OIL COMPANIES," RAHALL SAID.

"IF THE BIG OIL COMPANIES DON'T GET YOU IN THE SUMMER WITH HIGHER GAS PRICES FOR YOUR CAR, THEY GET YOU IN THE WINTER WITH HIGHER HOME HEATING OIL PRICES," RAHALL OBSERVED. "IT'S A BAD MERRY-GO-ROUND THAT MUST STOP!"

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