

Nick Rahall WEST VIRGINIA-4th DISTRICT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE OCTOBER 12, 1979 CONTACT: MIKE SERPE 202-225-3452

WASHINGTON D.C. --- AN AMENDMENT OFFERED BY WEST VIRGINIA'S FOURTH DISTRICT CONGRESSMAN NICK J. RAHALL, TO INCREASE COAL MINING RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT, WAS PASSED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRE-SENTATIVES.

RAHALL'S AMENDMENT RAISED FUNDING UNDER THE DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY'S AUTHORIZATION BILL FROM \$48 MILLION TO \$56 MILLION.

"IF THE NATION IS TO PURSUE A COURSE OF INCREASED RELIANCE ON COAL," RAHALL STATED, "WE SHOULD PROVIDE THE FUNDS TO MOVE FULL SPEED AHEAD ON COAL RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT."

"NOW MORE THAN EVER" THE CONGRESSMAN WENT ON TO SAY, "THE UNITED STATES NEEDS THE ASSURANCE THAT IT CAN MINE THE QUANITIES THAT WILL BE NEEDED ON THE YEAR 2000 AT REASONABLE COSTS."

"OVER 10 YEARS AGO, AS A NATION WE WERE CHALLENGED TO PUT A MAN ON THE MOON. TODAY OUR CHALLENGE IS TO BECOME ENERGY INDEPENDENT. I AM PLEASED THAT MY COLLEAGUES OVER-WHELMINGLY SUPPORTED MY AMEND-MENT TO CARRY THIS PROGRAM OUT," RAHALL CONCLUDED.

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