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WEST VIRGINIA-4th DISTRIC

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WASHINGTON D.C. --- WEST VIRGINIA'S FOURTH DISTRICT CONGRESS-MAN NICK J. RAHALL, POINTED OUT THAT, "SINCE ITS' INCEPTION IN 1965, THE APPALACHIAN REGIONAL COMMISSION HAS PUMPED OVER \$28 MILLION INTO SOUTHERN WEST VIRGINIA TO IMPROVE EVERY FACET OF LIFE, FROM HEALTH AND EDUCATION, TO TRANSPORTATION AND RECREATION."

MAKING THE REMARKS IN REFERENCE TO HIS SUPPORT OF LEGISLATION WHICH REAUTHORIZES THE A.R.C. THROUGH 1981, RAHALL EXPLAINED THAT, "THE A.R.C. HAS NOT ONLY HELPED INDIVIDUALS, IT HAS SPURRED THE DEVELOPMENT OF PROJECTS TOTALING OVER \$1.1 BILLION."

RAHALL OBSERVED, "AS A NATIVE OF SOUTHERN WEST VIRGINIA, I AM WELL AWARE THAT SINCE 1965, THE POVERTY LEVEL HAS DECREASED 55 PERCENT. ONE MILLION JOBS HAVE BEEN ADDED TO THE REGION AND PER CAPITA INCOME HAS RISEN TO OVER 85 PERCENT OF THE NATION AVERAGE."

"KNOWING THE PROBLEMS OF 15 YEARS AGO, I KNOW THAT TODAY, MUCH OF THE IMPROVEMENTS HAVE COME ABOUT BECAUSE THE APPALACHIAN REGIONAL COMMISSION WAS ONE OF THE DRIVING FORCES," RAHALL STATED.

HR 2063. THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND PUBLIC WORKS ACT OF 1979, HAS BEEN PASSED BY BOTH THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND THE SENATE. RAHALL, AS A SPONSOR OF THE BILL OBSERVES, "I AM HOPEFUL THAT BOTH "HOUSES OF CONGRESS CAN REACH AGREEMENT ON A FINAL VERSION OF THIS MEASURE SOMETIME EARLY NEXT YEAR."

THE A.R.C. HAS BEEN INVOLVED IN NUMEROUS PROGRAMS OVER THE PAST 15 YEARS IN SOUTHERN WEST VIRGINIA. SOME OF THESE PROJECTS IN YOUR AREA ARE LISTED BELOW:

LOGAN COUNTY

Man Appalachian Regional Hospital Logan General Hospital Logan Vocational Center Buffalo Creek Water System Buffalo Valley Recreational Area Logan County Airport Buffalo Creek Health Center

MINGO COUNTY

Mingo County Airport Mingo County Vocational Center Matewan Recreational Center Williamson Water System Matewan Community Health Center