

News  
From \_\_\_\_\_

CONGRESSMAN

# Nick Rahall

WEST VIRGINIA-4th DISTRICT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
MAY 28, 1979

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BECKLEY, WEST VIRGINIA --- WEST VIRGINIA'S FOURTH DISTRICT CONGRESSMAN NICK J. RAHALL AND HIS FAMILY WILL RIDE THE AMTRAK CARDINAL ROUTE FROM PRINCE, WV TO WASHINGTON D.C., AS A SHOW OF SUPPORT FOR THE TRAIN. THE RAHALLS WILL BOARD THE CARDINAL AT 1:01AM ON MAY 29.

CONGRESSMAN RAHALL, A STRONG SUPPORTER OF THE AMTRAK PASSENGER TRAIN SYSTEM SAID, "AT A CRITICAL TIME, WHEN WE ARE FACED WITH A MAJOR GASOLINE SHORTAGE, I BELIEVE IT IS IMPORTANT FOR ALL OF US TO SAVE WHEREVER POSSIBLE."

"MOST IMPORTANT OF ALL," RAHALL STATED, "IS THAT THE AMTRAK SYSTEM IS NEEDED MORE NOW THAN EVER, AND I WANT TO SHOW JUST HOW NEEDED THE CARDINAL IS BY RETURNING TO WASHINGTON ON IT."

CONGRESSMAN RAHALL HAS BEEN A RIDER OF AMTRAK TRAINS IN THE PAST. HE HAS RIDEN THE HILLTOPPER ROUTE ON A NUMBER OF OCCASSIONS, AND RECENTLY TOOK THE CARDINAL TO WASHINGTON WITH A NUMBER OF WEST VIRGINIA RESIDENTS TO SHOW THEIR SUPPORT OF THE TRAIN.

"I SUPPORT PASSENGER TRAIN SERVICE, NOT JUST FOR OTHERS," RAHALL STATED, "BUT BECAUSE I AM A CUSTOMER MYSELF."

CONGRESSMAN RAHALL OBSERVED, "I RODE PASSENGER TRAINS A GREAT DEAL WHEN I WAS YOUNG, AND I WANT MY CHILDREN TO SHARE THE SAME EXPERIENCE I HAD WHEN I WAS THEIR AGE." THE CONGRESSMAN'S CHILDREN ARE: REBECCA, 5 YEARS OLD, AND NICKY, 2 YEARS OLD.

"I AM VERY CONCERNED THAT THE LIFE OF THE AMTRAK SYSTEM MAY BE COMING TO AN END, HOWEVER I CANNOT UNDERSTAND WHY, WHEN WE WERE ABLE TO GET THE LAST AVAILABLE RESERVATION ON THE TRAIN," RAHALL POINTED OUT. RIDERSHIP ON ALL AMTRAK ROUTES HAVE INCREASED IN RECENT MONTHS, ACCORDING TO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FIGURES.

"I LOOK FROWARD TO THE TRIP, AND I AM HOPEFUL WE WILL BE ABLE TO MAKE IT AGAIN IN THE FUTURE," RAHALL SAID.

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