

News
From _____

CONGRESSMAN

Nick Rahall

WEST VIRGINIA-4th DISTRICT

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RAHALL FIGHTS TO SAVE RURAL POST OFFICES

WASHINGTON D.C. --- WEST VIRGINIA'S FOURTH DISTRICT CONGRESSMAN NICK J. RAHALL, HAS EXPRESSED HIS STRONG OPPOSITION TO A PLAN THAT WOULD CURTAIL THE OPERATION OF 10,000 SMALL RURAL POST OFFICES OVER THE NEXT THREE YEARS.

"DUE TO STRICT BUDGET CEILINGS IMPOSED BY THE REAGAN ADMINISTRATION," RAHALL POINTED OUT, "THE HOUSE POST OFFICE AND CIVIL SERVICE COMMITTEE HAS HAD TO SUBMIT A PLAN TO REDUCE FUNDING BY \$100 MILLION."

"THIS SAVINGS WOULD BE ACHIEVED BY CLOSING DOWN 10,000 SMALL RURAL POST OFFICES, MANY OF WHICH WOULD BE LOCATED IN WEST VIRGINIA," CONGRESSMAN RAHALL SAID.

RAHALL PERSONALLY TOLD POST OFFICE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN, REP. WILLIAM FORD (D-MICHIGAN), THAT, "HUNDREDS OF MY CONSTITUENTS IN SOUTHERN WEST VIRGINIA DAILY VISIT THESE POSTAL FACILITIES, NOT ONLY TO PICK UP THEIR MAIL, BUT TO CHAT WITH THEIR NEIGHBORS."

"RURAL POST OFFICES ARE FIXTURES OF THEIR COMMUNITIES, AND THEY MUST BE MAINTAINED," RAHALL STRESSED.

"ALTHOUGH I FULLY UNDERSTAND THAT A SAVINGS WOULD RESULT FROM THE CLOSING OF THESE POST OFFICES, I BELIEVE THE TRUE DETRIMENTS FAR OUTWEIGH THE BENEFITS," CONGRESSMAN RAHALL OBSERVED.

"THE RURAL AREAS OF THIS COUNTRY, LIKE NUMEROUS REGIONS OF WEST VIRGINIA, ARE ALREADY BRACING FOR THE ADVERSE EFFECTS OF THE ADMINISTRATION'S BUDGET CUTS," RAHALL STATED. "TO CLOSE DOWN RURAL POST OFFICES WOULD ONLY FURTHER DAMAGE THE PEOPLE WHO LIVE IN THESE AREAS OF OUR COUNTRY AND STATE," THE BECKLEY NATIVE CONCLUDED.