

News
From _____

CONGRESSMAN

Nick Rahall

WEST VIRGINIA-4th DISTRICT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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WASHINGTON D.C. --- "THE PASSAGE OF LEGISLATION TO EXTEND UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS 10 ADDITIONAL WEEKS, IS AN IMPORTANT STEP TOWARD RELIEVING THE HARDSHIP CAUSED FOR THOUSANDS UPON THOUSANDS OF WORKERS AND THEIR FAMILIES BY THE CONTINUING HIGH LEVELS OF UNEMPLOYMENT," STATED WEST VIRGINIA'S FOURTH DISTRICT CONGRESSMAN NICK J. RAHALL.

CONGRESSMAN RAHALL'S COMMENTS WERE MADE IN REFERENCE TO HR 8146, THAT PASSED THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES BY A VOTE OF 336 TO 71, ON TUESDAY.

"AT THE PRESENT TIME," RAHALL POINTED OUT, "THE RATE OF UNEMPLOYMENT IN THE STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA IS 7.9 PERCENT, WITH THE BULK OF THAT FIGURE BEING MADE UP OF OUT-OF-WORK COAL MINERS."

"THIS EXTENSION OF UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS WILL HELP THOSE INDIVIDUALS AND THEIR FAMILIES, WHO HAVE ALREADY EXHAUSTED THEIR ASSISTANCE UNDER THE PRESENT LAW, DUE TO THE LINGERING RECESSION," CONGRESSMAN RAHALL OBSERVED.

"ALTHOUGH THIS IS ONLY TEMPORARY HELP," RAHALL STATED, "IT IS GREATLY NEEDED TO HELP THESE FAMILIES GET BACK ON THEIR FEET AT A VERY UNFORTUNATE TIME."

"OUR GOAL IS TO HELP THE UNEMPLOYED AS BEST WE CAN, RIGHT NOW," CONGRESSMAN RAHALL STRESSED, "WITH THE NEXT TASK BEING TO FIND THEM WORK AGAIN, SO THAT THEY CAN BECOME WORKING AMERICANS NOT UNEMPLOYED AMERICANS."

THE PROPOSAL TO EXTEND UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS, IS PART OF PRESIDENT CARTER'S ECONOMIC RENEWAL PROGRAM.

AFTER HOUSE PASSAGE, THE BILL WILL NOW GO THE SENATE FOR ACTION AND IF PASSED WILL GO TO THE PRESIDENT FOR HIS SIGNATURE.

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