

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

CONGRESSMAN

# Nick Rahall

WEST VIRGINIA-4th DISTRICT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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WASHINGTON D.C. --- WEST VIRGINIA'S FOURTH DISTRICT CONGRESSMAN NICK J. RAHALL, TODAY INTRODUCED LEGISLATION TO ENCOURAGE AND ASSIST SMALL SIZED COAL PRODUCERS TO INCREASE PRODUCTION OF LOW SULFUR COAL, AND CREATE JOBS FOR MANY UNEMPLOYED MINERS.

CONGRESSMAN RAHALL POINTED OUT, "THIS MEASURE WILL AMEND THE ENERGY POLICY AND CONSERVATION ACT OF 1975, A LAW WHICH AUTHORIZED THE SECRETARY OF ENERGY TO MAKE LOANS OF UP TO \$30 MILLION DOLLARS FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF UNDERGROUND MINES."

"BACK IN 1975," RAHALL WENT ON TO SAY, "THE PROGRAM SOUNDED GOOD, BUT DUE TO UNREALISTIC AND OUT-DATED REQUIRMENTS IN THE LAW, NO APPLICANT HAS QUALIFIED FOR A LOAN."

"IT IS MY INTENTION TO GET THIS PROGRAM MOVING, TO GET COAL MINED SAFELY, AND PUT MINERS BACK TO WORK," RAHALL STRESSED.

RAHALL'S LEGISLATION, WHICH HAS BEEN CO-SPONSORED BY ELEVEN COAL STATE CONGRESSMEN HAS ALSO RECEIVED THE BACKING OF THE UNITED MINE WORKERS OF AMERICA.

RAHALL EXPLAINED, "NOT ONLY WILL THIS PROGRAM SPUR PRODUCTION BY SMALL OPERATORS, IT WILL ASSIST THESE OPERATORS TO AQUIRE THE THE NECESSARY FUNDS TO UPGRADE EQUIPMENT AND TO PROVIDE FOR BETTER MINE SAFETY MECHANISMS, AS SPECIFIED IN THE FEDERAL COAL MINE HEALTH AND SAFETY ACT."

THE LEGISLATION (ATTACHED), NOT ONLY CLARIFIES THE STATUTORY PROBLEMS IN THE PRESENT LAW, BUT ALSO OPENS THE PROGRAM TO SURFACE MINES AS WELL AS UNDERGROUND MINES.

CONGRESSMAN RAHALL, CHAIRMAN OF THE CONGRESSIONAL COAL GROUP, SAID, "I URGE MY COLLEAUGES IN BOTH THE HOUSE AND SENATE TO SUPPORT THIS BILL, SO THAT WE CAN REDUCE OUR RELIANCE ON FOREIGN OIL, MAKE OUR NATION MORE SECURE AND PROVIDE EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE THOUSANDS OF UNEMPLOYED MINERS THROUGHOUT THE COAL FIELDS."



## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. Perkins, Clinger, Bevill, Murphy of Pa.,  
Mr. Rahall (for himself and \_\_\_\_\_ introduced the following bill; which was referred  
Synar, Wampler, Whittaker, Murtha, Molloyhan  
to the Committee on \_\_\_\_\_

**A BILL**

(Insert title of bill here)

To amend section 102 of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act to provide for more effective implementation of the incentives under that section for development of coal mines.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United*

2 *States of America in Congress assembled,* that section 102(c)(3)

3 of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (42 U.S.C. 6211(c)(3)) is  
4 amended to read as follows:

5 "(3) the term "low sulfur coal" means coal the sulfur content  
6 of which is equal to or less than the maximum sulfur content  
7 permitted by any applicable Federal, State or local environmental  
8 requirement or implementation plan for the area in which the coal  
9 will be burned. Sulfur content shall be determined after the  
10 application of any coal preparation process which takes place before  
11 sale of the coal by the producer."

1 Section 2. (a) Section 102 (a), (b)(2), (b)(3), and (c)(4) of  
2 such Act (42 U.S.C. 6211) are amended by striking out "underground"  
3 each place that term appears.

4 (b)(1) The heading for section 102 of such Act is amended by  
5 striking out "UNDERGROUND".

6 (2) The table of sections for such Act is amended by striking out  
7 "underground" in the item relating to section 102.

8 Sec. 3. Section 102 (b)(1)(D) of such Act (42 U.S.C. 6211(b)(1)(D))  
9 is amended by striking out "a contract, of at least the duration of  
10 the period during which the loan is required to be repaid, for the  
11 sale or resale of coal to be produced from such mine" and inserting  
12 in lieu thereof the following: "a contract, the duration of which  
13 meets requirements which the Secretary shall prescribe, for the sale  
14 or resale of coal to be produced from such mine".

15 Sec. 4. The amendments made by this Act shall take effect upon  
16 enactment of this Act.