

News
From _____

CONGRESSMAN

Nick Rahall

WEST VIRGINIA-4th DISTRICT

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WASHINGTON D.C. --- "THE ONLY WAY TO STOP FEDERAL AGENCIES FROM SHOVELING MONEY OUT THE WINDOW, IS TO CLOSE THE WINDOW," SAID WEST VIRGINIA'S FOURTH DISTRICT CONGRESSMAN NICK J. RAHALL.

CONGRESSMAN RAHALL'S COMMENTS CAME IN ANNOUNCING HIS SUPPORT OF HR 7287, THE YEAR-END SPENDING CONTROL ACT.

RAHALL POINTED OUT, "LAST YEAR SEVEN MAJOR FEDERAL AGENCIES SPENT MORE THAN 20 PERCENT OF THEIR BUDGETS IN THE LAST TWO MONTHS OF THE FISCAL YEAR."

"THE DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT SPENT 47.2 PERCENT OF THEIR BUDGET IN AUGUST AND SEPTEMBER, THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY SPENT 41.7 PERCENT, THE COMMERCE DEPARTMENT SPENT 30.3 PERCENT," CONGRESSMAN RAHALL STATED.

"WE HAVE A SITUATION IN WHICH AGENCIES FEEL THEY MUST SPEND ALL OF THEIR APPROPRIATED FUNDS BY THE END OF YEAR, FOR FEAR THAT CONGRESS WILL CUT BACK IN FUTURE YEARS." RAHALL SAID. "I FOR ONE, INTEND TO DO JUST THAT, THROUGH THIS ACTION," RAHALL ADDED.

"HR 7287, WILL LIMIT AN AGENCY SPENDING TO ONLY 20% DURING THE LAST TWO MONTHS OF THE FISCAL YEAR," CONGRESSMAN SAID, "AND IT IS MY HOPE THAT WE CAN STOP THE FLAGRANT MISUSE OF FUNDS FOR SUCH THINGS AS PAINTING AND REMODELING OFFICES OF GOVERNMENT BUREAUCRATS."

CONGRESSMAN RAHALL CONCLUDED, "THIS MAY SOUND LIKE A PIE-IN-THE-SKY APPROACH TO SOME, BUT WE HAVE TO START SOMEWHERE, AND I THINK THIS IS STEP ONE IN A NEVER ENDING ATTEMPT TO REDUCE WASTE IN GOVERNMENT SPENDING."

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