

News
From _____

CONGRESSMAN

Nick Rahall

WEST VIRGINIA-4th DISTRICT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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WASHINGTON D.C. --- CONGRESSMAN NICK J. RAHALL OF WEST VIRGINIA'S FOURTH DISTRICT, ANNOUNCED TODAY THAT THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES APPROVED A \$1.5 BILLION PROGRAM TO ASSIST STATES IN THE UP-GRADING AND CONSTRUCTION OF ENERGY IMPACTED ROADS, HIGHWAYS AND RAILROAD CROSSINGS.

"AS COAL MOVES TO THE FOREFRONT OF OUR NATION'S ENERGY PICTURE, IT IS ESSENTIAL THAT WE HAVE A TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM IN PLACE THAT IS CAPABLE OF MOVING THESE INCREASING AMOUNTS OF COAL SAFELY," CONGRESSMAN RAHALL STRESSED. "IT IS ALSO IMPORTANT THAT THESE SAME ROADS REMAIN SAFE FOR THE DAILY USE OF ALL WEST VIRGINIANS," RAHALL POINTED OUT.

THE STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA STANDS TO RECEIVE AS MUCH AS \$36 MILLION IN FISCAL YEAR 1982, THE FIRST YEAR OF THE PROGRAM, AND AS MUCH AS \$54 MILLION IN THE FOURTH AND FINAL YEAR, WHICH WILL BE 1985.

"THIS LEGISLATION, HR 6417," RAHALL WENT ON TO ADD, "ALSO WILL PROVIDE WEST VIRGINIA WITH OVER \$6.6 MILLION IN FUNDS TO ASSIST IN THE OPERATION OF PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION SYSTEMS."

CITIES EARMARKED FOR FUNDS ARE: \$1.6 MILLION FOR HUNTINGTON, \$1.4 MILLION FOR CHARLESTON, \$993,000 FOR WHEELING, \$678,000 FOR PARKERSBURG, AND \$1.8 MILLION TO BE DISTRIBUTED TO SMALL URBAN AND RURAL AREAS.

WITH REGARDS TO THE COAL HAUL ROADS SECTION OF THE BILL, CONGRESSMAN RAHALL OBSERVED, "WITH OVER 60 PERCENT OF ALL THE COAL MINED IN APPALACHIA BEING TRANSPORTED BY TRUCK FROM MINE TO MARKET, THIS LEGISLATION WAS LONG OVER-DUE, AND I AM PLEASED TO HAVE PLAYED A MAJOR ROLE IN THE FORMULATION OF THE BILL, AS A CO-SPONSOR AND AS A MEMBER OF THE PUBLIC WORKS AND TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE."

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