

# RAHALL Weekly Report

"JOBS AND UNEMPLOYMENT"

BY CONGRESSMAN NICK RAHALL

UNEMPLOYMENT AND THE NEED FOR JOBS IN OUR STATE AND NATION, IS NOT A POLITICAL ISSUE--AS SOME HAVE CHARGED--IT IS A VERY PRACTICAL ISSUE, ONE THAT CALLS FOR PROMPT ACTION ON THE PART OF CONGRESS AND THE REAGAN ADMINISTRATION.

I AM PLEASED TO REPORT THAT THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES RECENTLY TOOK THE FIRST, POSITIVE STEP TO PUT AMERICANS BACK TO WORK, BY PASSING AN URGENT MEASURE TO PROVIDE TEMPORARY EMPLOYMENT IN REPAIRING AND REBUILDING BRIDGES, ROADWAYS, WATER SYSTEMS AND OTHER PUBLIC FACILITIES.

MOST IMPORTANT IS THE FACT THAT THE PRICE TAG OF \$1 BILLION FOR THIS PROGRAM FALLS WELL BELOW THE FEDERAL BUDGET LIMIT.

AT THE PRESENT TIME, THE GOVERNMENT IS PAYING OUT OVER \$20 BILLION IN UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION TO MEET THE NEEDS OF OVER 13 MILLION AMERICANS WHO ARE OUT OF WORK--A TOTAL THAT EXCEEDS THE NUMBER OF AMERICANS UNEMPLOYED DURING THE GREAT DEPRESSION.

PASSAGE OF THIS MEASURE WAS A STRONG STEP FOR THE GOOD OF THE NATION.