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RAHALL PUSHES LONG-TERM EMPLOYMENT BILL

WASHINGTON D.C. --- "CREATING MEANINGFUL, TAX-GENERATING JOBS IN AREAS OF HIGH UNEMPLOYMENT, IS FAR SUPERIOR TO ISSUING WELFARE CHECKS TO THOUSANDS OF PRODUCTIVE, JOB-READY WORKERS WHO HAVE NO PLACE ELSE TO TURN," STATED WEST VIRGINIA'S FOURTH DISTRICT CONGRESSMAN NICK J. RAHALL.

RAHALL'S REMARKS CAME AS HE EXPRESSED HIS STRONG SUPPORT FOR

HR 1036, THE COMMUNITY RENEWAL EMPLOYMENT ACT, WHICH IS EXPECTED TO

BE CONSIDERED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES WITHIN THE COMING WEEKS.

CONGRESSMAN RAHALL, A CO-SPONSOR OF THE BILL SAID, "THIS PRO-POSAL WOULD PROVIDE MEANINGFUL JOBS FOR THE LONG-TERM UNEMPLOYED--NOT JUST IN BIG CITIES, BUT IN RURAL AREAS OF THIS NATION RAVAGED BY UNEMPLOYMENT, LIKE SOUTHERN WEST VIRGINIA."

"FUNDS FROM THIS BILL," RAHALL POINTED OUT, "WOULD ENABLE STATE

AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS TO PUT THOSE PEOPLE WHO ARE OUT OF WORK THE

LONGEST AND INELIGIBLE FOR UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS TO WORK IN THE REPAIR

OF VITAL PUBLIC FACILITIES."

FOR EXAMPLE, THE REPAIR OF ROADS, BRIDGES, SEWERS, WATER SYSTEMS AND SCHOOLS, "ARE THE TYPE OF WORK PROJECTS PROVIDED FOR UNDER HR 1036, WHICH MOST RURAL AREAS SORELY NEED," CONGRESSMAN RAHALL SAID.

"IN ADDITION, THIS BILL WOULD PROVIDE WORKERS TO ASSIST IN ELDERLY NUTRITION, COMMUNITY HEALTH, AND EMERGENCY MEDICAL PROGRAMS," RAHALL POINTED OUT.

"THE CURRENT NATIONAL UNEMPLOYMENT RATE, WHICH RIVALS JOBLESS
RATES DURING THE GREAT DEPRESSION, IS CAUSING HARDSHIPS FOR AMERICANS
IN URBAN AND RURAL AREAS," CONGRESSMAN RAHALL STATED. "YET THE
EFFECTS OF UNEMPLOYMENT IN RURAL REGIONS, LIKE SOUTHERN WEST VIRGINIA,
ARE INCREASED BY ADDITIONAL FACTORS," RAHALL STRESSED.

CONGRESSMAN RAHALL EXPLAINED, "THE POTENTIAL OF ECONOMIC GROWTH IN MOST RURAL LOCALITIES IS LIMITED, AND POVERTY IN SUCH AREAS IS A SIGNIFICANT PROBLEM EVEN IN TIMES OF RELATIVE ECONOMIC PROSPERITY."