

News
From _____

CONGRESSMAN

Nick Rahall

WEST VIRGINIA-4th DISTRICT

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HOUSE-PASSED HOUSING BILL HELPS WEST VIRGINIA, RAHALL SAYS

Washington, D.C. -- U.S. Rep. Nick Rahall (D-WV) says that the housing bill passed by the House of Representatives this afternoon funds many programs that are vital to West Virginians. The bill also funds many independent agencies, including the Veterans Administration, Federal Emergency Management Agency, and the Environmental Protection Agency.

"I feel that the action taken by the House today will prove beneficial to states such as West Virginia that are in need of housing assistance," Rep. Rahall said. "Included in this \$54 billion appropriation bill, is some \$8 billion in housing assistance; \$1.3 billion for public housing operating subsidies; \$1.8 billion for an additional 12,000 units of elderly and handicapped housing; \$250 million for the rental rehabilitation program; and others. All of these programs will help to provide adequate housing for citizens all over West Virginia for those who are unable to afford decent accommodations."

"In addition, the bill also provides \$3 billion for the Community Development Block Grant program, and \$275 million for the Urban Development Action Grant (UDAG) program," Rahall explained. "Both of these programs are very vital to urban revitalization, and are a very important factor in attracting new businesses to West Virginia."

The appropriation bill also provides \$4.7 billion for the Environmental Protection Agency; \$614.3 million for the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA); and \$26.1 billion for the Veterans Administration. "These three agencies provide very crucial services to the people of West Virginia and I am happy to see that they have been accorded adequate funding for the coming fiscal year," Rep. Rahall observed.

The appropriation bill for H.U.D. and other independent agencies will now go to the Senate for consideration.