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RAHALL SAYS FUNDING BILL PASSED BY HOUSE GOOD FOR WEST VIRGINIA

WASHINGTON, D.C. -- U.S. REP. NICK RAHALL (D-WV) SAYS THAT SUPPLEMENTAL
FUNDING BILL PASSED BY THE HOUSE TONIGHT CONTAINS PROVISIONS WHICH WILL BE VERY
HELPFUL TO PROGRAMS VITAL TO WEST VIRGINIA. THE BILL APPROPRIATES $1.7 BILLION
IN SUPPLEMENTAL FUNDING FOR FISCAL YEAR 1986.

"ONE PROVISION OF THE BILL WHICH I WAS PARTICUALRLY HAPPY TO SEE INCLUDED IN
THE FINAL VERSION CANCELS SOME $4.9 BILLION IN SPENDING DEFERRALS WHICH THE ADMINI-
STRATION HAD PROPOSED," RAHALL OBSERVED. "THE DISAPPROVAL OF DEFERRAL WILL NOW
FREE UP $500 MILLION FOR COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANTS, $700 MILLION FOR THE
RURAL HOUSING INSURANCE FUND, $2.3 BILLION FOR HOUSING ASSISTANCE, $530.2 MILLION
IN HOUSING ASSISTANCE FOR THE ELDERLY AND HANDICAPPED, $40 MILLION FOR THE ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT ADMINISTRATION, $22.9 MILLION FOR THE FOSSIL ENERGY RESEARCH AND DEVELOP-
MENT PROGRAM, $146 MILLION IN STUDENT FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE, NAMELY PELL GRANTS."

THE SUPPLEMENTAL SPENDING BILL ALSO APPROPRIATES $363 MILLION FOR VETERANS
PROGRAMS. "THIS BILL INCLUDES $272 MILLION FOR VETERANS COMPENSATION AND $91
MILLION FOR READJUSTMENT BENEFITS. IN ADDITION, THE BILL PROVIDES THROUGH TRANSFERS
$30 MILLION FOR VETERANS MEDICAL CARE, $35 MILLION FOR VETERANS JOB TRAINING, AND
$6 MILLION FOR GENERAL OPERATING EXPENSES WITHIN THE VETERANS ADMINISTRATION," REP.
RAHALL POINTED OUT.

"I WAS ALSO HAPPY TO SEE THAT THE BILL ALSO APPROPRIATED $20 MILLION FOR THE
WOMEN, INFANTS AND CHILDREN (W.I.C.) PROGRAM, AS WELL AS SOME $8.5 MILLION FOR THE
MEALS SERVED UNDER THE OLDER AMERICANS ACT MEALS PROGRAM," RAHALL OBSERVED.

"I AM HAPPY TO SEE THAT THESE PROGRAMS WHICH ARE SO VITAL TO OUR BASIC SURVIVAL
IN WEST VIRGINIA WILL BE RECEIVING THE NECESSARY FUNDING TO ALLOW THEM TO CONTINUE
TO HELP OUR PEOPLE TO HELP THEMSELVES," RAHALL SAID.

THE SPENDING BILL WILL NOW GO TO THE PRESIDENT FOR HIS APPROVAL.

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