

News
From _____

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RAHALL: LTV RESPONSIBLE FOR LOGAN RETIREES HEALTH CARE

Washington, D.C. -- The LTV Corporation, engaged in bankruptcy proceedings, is legally responsible for the health care of over 100 UMWA retirees in Logan County, U.S. Rep. Nick Rahall (D-WV) told a Congressional investigating committee today.

In testimony to the House Judiciary Subcommittee on Monopolies and Commercial Law, Rahall said that the House should proceed with "legislation that will ensure that LTV continues to pay all medical and life insurance benefits to its retirees until a court with appropriate jurisdiction rules otherwise." The Senate has passed legislation with these provisions.

Bankruptcy court last week ordered that benefits be paid for six months. "It is highly unlikely that the financial situation of LTV will be resolved within six months," Rahall pointed out while noting that these benefits would once again be jeopardized after six months.

"Although I am concerned about all retirees who may be affected by LTV's calculated, callous actions, I am especially sympathetic to the plight of the some 1500 mine workers who may suffer under the current court ruling," Rahall testified. "LTV is legally responsible for providing health care and other non-pension benefits to these miners who retired under the 1974 pension trust. Among them are over 100 UMWA members who live in my district, primarily in Logan County, who retired from LTV after 1976 and who are not covered by UMWA's retirement and health coverage plans."

A bill has been introduced in the House, H.R. 5283, containing these provisions in support of which Rahall testified.