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## CRIME DECREASES SHARPLY IN WEST VIRGINIA

HON. NICK JOE RAHALL II

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 29, 1986

Mr. RAHALL. Mr. Speaker, the Federal Bureau of Investigation uniform crime reports released this past Sunday indicate that after 3 years of decline, serious crime in the United States rose 4.6 percent, to 12,430,026.

However, in my home State of West Virginia, the FBI reported that we had the largest decrease of any State in the Nation, a drop of 3.6 percent in crimes per 100,000 residents. West Virginia also had large decreases in the number of murders and property crimes per 100,000 residents.

The FBI report did not speculate on the cause of the increase nationwide. However, it is very heartening to me to see that we in West Virginia, while suffering under high unemployment and tough times, particularly in the coalfields, have not resorted to crime and violence as a result of our lagging economy. West Virginians have always prided themselves on being able to weather tough times and the latest FBI crime figures indicate that, once again, West Virginians are trying to bounce back through hard work and dedication, not crime. In tough times, the tough get tougher.