

News
From _____

CONGRESSMAN

Nick Rahall

WEST VIRGINIA-4th DISTRICT

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RAHALL CONTINUES OPPOSITION TO TRAILWAYS WITHDRAWAL

WASHINGTON, DC -U.S. Rep. Nick Rahall today reiterated his strong opposition to Trailways abandoning bus routes through Southern West Virginia. The petition to discontinue service in West Virginia between Bluefield and Welch is currently pending before the I.C.C.

According to Rahall, bus service is vital to the area and for many it is the only source of transportation. The Congressman cited overwhelming public support for the continuation of service and the hardships an abandoned service would cause not only for citizens and communities.

In a letter to all members of the I.C.C., Rahall wrote "Clearly, public support in Southern West Virginia for the continuation of the bus service which has been provided by Trailways since early 1940 is great," Rahall stated. "The bus service Trailways plans to withdraw in Welch, Kimball, Keystone, Bramwell, Bluefield and Princeton is the only mode of transportation for many of the elderly, handicapped and impoverished citizens of those areas. Their reliance on the system is quite frequently out of necessity rather than choice."

Rahall has testified before the I.C.C. and objected to any reduction or withdrawal of bus service in Southern West Virginia and at the current time the Congressman believes such a withdraw can harm the chances for further economic growth and diversification in the region.

"The economic development projects that are ongoing in Mercer and McDowell Counties will be dealt a serious blow should Trailways be allowed to abandon their present routes," Rahall commented. "This would be a formidable deterrent to attracting new business, as well as a handicap to existing businesses facing difficult times."

An I.C.C. decision on the Trailways petition is expected soon.