News From



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE MARCH 26, 1987

CONTACT: JERRY BURKOT 202-225-3452

RAHALL VOICES SUPPORT FOR GARY P.R.E. CENTER

WASHINGTON, DC - U.S. Rep. Nick Rahall (D-W.Va.) today announced his support for the funding of a feasibility study of the Park-Recreation-Education Center, Inc. in Gary, West Virginia developing a small business incubator, education and community-social services center in the town.

Rahall explained that Magdalene Allison of P.R.E. met with representatives from the Small Business Development Center, directed by Dean Kenny at Concord College, on February 12 at the Congressman's Economic Development Seminar in Welch.

"As a result of that meeting, the P.R.E. Board of Directors met with the S.B.D.C. on March 10 and discussed the development of a multi-purpose center in Gary," Rahall said.

Rahall followed up a letter of explanation from the S.B.D.C. sent to the Marshall University Center for Regional Progress, giving his full support to studying the viability of such a facility in the McDowell County town.

The Congressman praised the P.R.E. Center for its innovative and creative concepts in bringing together many services under one roof.

"The center, as conceived, will be a main pillar in supporting future economic development in Gary," Rahall said. "It will be a center of attraction not only for citizens of Gary, but also for those in the business world outside of McDowell County and West Virginia who may be looking to invest in the area."

Rahall was very pleased at Gary's reaction to his seminar and the P.R.E. announcement comes only a few weeks after a proposal from the City of Welch that a small business incubator be developed in Welch.

-30-

## 343 Cannon H.O.B. Washington, D.C. 20515