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WEST VIRGINIA RECEIVES GRANT TO AUTOMATE UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE ACTIVITIES

WASHINGTON, DC - U.S. Rep. Nick Rahall (D-W.Va.) announced today that the State of West Virginia has been awarded funds to automate selected Unemployment Insurance activities.

The \$158,475 will be given to the state Department of Employment Security in response to the state's request for such funding under the Unemployment Insurance Automation grant for fiscal year 1987.

Rahall said it is up to the state to automate its system, but regardless what is done in Charleston, automation will help the in handling cases.

"Computer technology is an important and necessary part of our society," Rahall commented. "By upgrading and possibly developing new systems, records of unemployment will be easier to update and the time factor can be shortened."

The grant was made available form the U.S. Department of Labor's

Employment and Training Administration to assist states in automating their

Unemployment Insurance systems and procedures. The criteria considered most

significant included urgency, administrative and Trust Fund Savings,

proposals that would improve system performance, technical merit, and some

aspect of State payback of funds to the Federal Government if awarded such.