

News  
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CONGRESSMAN

# Nick Rahall

WEST VIRGINIA-4th DISTRICT

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## PRESIDENT OUT OF TOUCH, RAHALL SAYS

WASHINGTON, D.C.-The U.S. House of Representatives easily overturned President Reagan's veto of the Clean Water Act in what Rep. Nick J. Rahall (D-W.Va.) called an indication of changing times.

Rahall said the House vote reversing the President's veto is a sign that the White House, not Congress has lost touch with the people.

"This bill was supported on both sides of the aisle," Rahall commented. "It was not a Democratic bill, it was not a Republican bill, it was by far a piece of legislation that received bipartisan support in both houses of Congress. The President thought it to be a budget buster and vetoed the bill. We in the House saw it as a necessity to preserve our environment and overrode that veto. I am confident our colleagues in the Senate will follow with an override in the next few days."

The Clean Water Act contains a provision authored by Rahall which will provide incentives for industry to remine and reclaim abandoned coal mine lands. Such a provision would reduce environmental damages while at the same time allow retrieval of valuable coal deposits.

The legislation authorizes the Construction Grants Program at \$2.4 billion for each fiscal year through 1988. For fiscal year 1987 and 1988, West Virginia will receive \$38 million each year.

"When the President first vetoed the act in November, I promised the good people of West Virginia that I would work to get the bill passed again in the House," Rahall commented. "The people's Congress has passed this bill over a presidential veto. I'm concerned about our environment as are the people of West Virginia. It's a shame we have a chief executive who does not share the same concern."