

News
From _____

CONGRESSMAN

Nick Rahall

WEST VIRGINIA-4th DISTRICT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
NOVEMBER 20, 1986

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RAHALL COMMISSION TO TACKLE EDUCATION PROBLEMS

Washington, DC - U.S. Representative Nick Rahall (D-W.Va.) has established an advisory commission to assist him in formulating a strategy to promote education during the 100th Congress.

Citing diminishing federal dollars for education and the state's rollercoaster economy, Rahall said the state must organize to compete for the federal monies that are available.

"We (West Virginia) have to be more aggressive in seeking out federal funds," Rahall said. "With the rampant cuts brought forth by Gramm-Rudman and other administration policies, the state will have to seek support not only from the public but also the private sector."

The committee, known as Congressman Rahall's Advisory Commission on Education, is in the process of being appointed. Marshall University President Dale Nitzschke has been named head of the panel.

"I hope that through the works of this commission I will be able to help the education system flourish in West Virginia," Rahall commented. "Through its recommendations the group can increase my awareness to the problems facing education and work with me toward developing solutions to those problems."

The advisory group will be comprised of various components from the education field including administrators, teachers, students and parents from all levels, Head Start through college.

"Over the long run, we hope to produce arrangements that will make things happen in West Virginia," Rahall said. "Through education we can pursue a plan of economic development that will create a better business climate that would attract diverse industries. With the diversification, we hope to retain our own people and end the mass exodus from the state, particularly southern West Virginia."

Rahall acknowledged that November 16-22 is American Education Week and added that without education, the future of a society is uncertain.

"Education is an investment in the future. It is a key that unlocks many doors," Rahall said. "In West Virginia we need to find ways to better our schools so we can create locksmiths who can unlock the doors and lead us to prosperity."

The Congressman hopes the commission will be appointed and in place by January 1987.

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