

P.R. to AP-Mark Paxton 9:18
UPI-Pam Ramsey 9:21

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
MONDAY, JULY 11, 1988

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RAHALL ANNOUNCES EDUCATION GRANTS FOR WEST VIRGINIA

Washington - U.S. Rep. Nick Rahall announced this morning that the State of West Virginia has received grants from two programs sponsored by the U.S. Department of Education. The State is to receive \$14,789,138 to aid education of the handicapped, and \$1,560,284 as part of the Drug Free Schools and Communities Act of 1986.

The Office of Special Education Programs awarded West Virginia more than \$14.7 million to provide a free appropriate public education to all handicapped children. These funds may be used to support child identification, location and evaluation activities; to provide free, appropriate education to newly-identified handicapped children; to meet the full educational opportunity goal for all handicapped children and to employ additional personnel needed for the education of handicapped children.

The Office of Elementary and Secondary Education Programs has provided the State with a total of \$1,560,284 of which 70% or \$1,092,199 will be allotted to state and local educational agencies for alcohol and drug abuse education and prevention programs. The remaining 30% or \$468,085 will be awarded to the governor to be used at his discretion for drug and alcohol abuse and prevention programs.

"These two awards will greatly aid many students in West Virginia," Rahall stated. "We will be able to identify and help those students who may need additional educational aid because of disabilities. We will also be able to strengthen our programs pertaining to drug and alcohol abuse."