

News
From _____

CONGRESSMAN

Nick Rahall

WEST VIRGINIA-4th DISTRICT

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RAHALL INTRODUCES LEGISLATION IN SUPPORT OF SILVER-HAIRED CONGRESS

WASHINGTON - U.S. Rep. Nick Rahall (D-W.Va.) today introduced legislation to express his support for and the importance of the upcoming 1989 "National Silver-Haired Congress." Rahall stated that the group is an influential sector of society in both West Virginia and throughout the United States.

"In the 14 years since its inception, the senior citizen legislatures established in nearly half of the states, have provided a wealth of information and assistance to state governments on issues pertaining to aging and senior Americans," Rahall said. "They channel their wisdom and vigor into championing their cause and this tremendous amount of energy has resulted in the National Silver-Haired Congress which will meet next year."

Rahall added that the national group has been incorporated as a non-profit organization, and will not seek federal or state funding to carry out its objectives.

"Their goal is to work alongside the government and national organizations as an independent advisory group on aging issues," Rahall stated. "Our nation is growing older. Currently more than 12 percent of our national population is over the age of 65. In just 40 years, that number will reach 20-percent."

Rahall added that as the country's senior population increases, the problems of medical costs and insurance coverage will intensify. "We cannot and should not face these problems ourselves when there are organizations like the National Silver-Haired Congress are willing and able to help."

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