

News  
From \_\_\_\_\_

CONGRESSMAN

# Nick Rahall

WEST VIRGINIA-4th DISTRICT

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CONTACT: JERRY BURKOT  
202-225-3452

RAHALL SELECTED AS MEMBER OF EDUCATION AND LABOR COMMITTEE'S  
ELEMENTARY, SECONDARY AND VOCATIONAL EDUCATION SUBCOMMITTEE.

Washington, DC -- The Democratic Caucus of the House Education and Labor Committee has selected Nick Rahall (D-W.Va.) to serve as a member of the Subcommittee on Elementary Secondary and Vocational Education. Rahall was appointed to the powerful Committee on Education and Labor last week by the Democratic Caucus of the Whole House, after weeks of vigorous pursuit of the coveted spot.

Rahall's position on the Subcommittee was avidly sought by Chairman Gus Hawkins during the furious bidding process among members to gain seats on their choice subcommittees.

"The Subcommittee on Elementary, Secondary, and Vocational Education is a very important subcommittee," Rahall said. "I am honored to have had the support of the Chairman Hawkins in my quest to be seated on it."

Rahall was enthusiastic when he described the subcommittee's heavy legislative schedule which is already in motion.

"The subcommittee has jurisdiction over education through high school and beyond," Rahall said. "Its immediate schedule includes reauthorization of vocational education, school lunch and child nutrition, including WIC, and the controversial day care bill which died in the last Congress. All of these vital programs are due to expire on Sept. 30 of this year. I am particularly anxious to be involved in the redirection of vocational education towards today's highly technological workplace."

Rahall said his first official act as a new Member of the Education and Labor Committee will be to meet in executive session on February 2nd to approve the Committee Rules, its operating budget, and to report favorably on a bill entitled "Rural Technology Access".

"The Access bill, is designed to expand the college, vocational, and career opportunities for rural high school students attending schools in communities which are encountering fundamental economic and social changes," Rahall stated. "I can't think of a place more in need, or more eligible, than my own District, as well as many other isolated areas throughout the state of West Virginia."

Rahall, who now serves on three hard-working and powerful committees, said he was confident that although a commitment of much more of his time and energy would be necessary, it is crucial for him to be directly involved in education, one of West Virginia's most urgent and growing needs.

"I will strongly pursue not only improved and expanded policies with regard to education's goals in this country, but also full funding for new and existing education programs so vital to our country and to West Virginia's future economic stability and the well-being of its people."