News From

## Nick Rahall

WEST VIRGINIA-4th DISTRICT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE FRIDAY, JANUARY 6, 1988

CONTACT: JERRY BURKOT 202-225-3452

## RAHALL STAFF CHANGES AIMED AT BENEFITING W.VA.

**BECKLEY, W.VA. -** In a move to further enhance his service to southern West Virginia and accomodate the increasing responsibilities seven terms in the U.S. House of Representatives brings, U.S. Rep. Nick J. Rahall (D-W.Va.) today disclosed that he has reorganized the staff structure of his Congressional office.

"Just as it takes good employees to make a business flourish, in Congress it takes a well organized staff that is responsive to the needs of my constituents and knowledgeable of the legislative process to assist me in the successful execution of my duties," Rahall said.

Rahall noted that each term in office brings with it the ability to accomplish more for his district due in part to the recognition and value placed by the House on seniority. For example, due to his seniority on both the Public Works and Interior Committees, where Rahall serves as a subcommittee chairman, during the last Congress, he was able to gain the enactment of more public laws than many other House Members.

The Congressman said that his staff reorganization is aimed at building upon past successes to further advance his agenda for southern West Virginia, especially on two fronts. "During the 101st Congress I will press for the two issues I believe are the most important to the long term growth of West Virginia, economic diversification bolstered and supported by an excellent system of education," he stated.

Rahall has appointed Kent Keyser as his Administrative Assistant to oversee staff operations from his Washington, D.C. Congressional office. Keyser has served as the Congressman's District representative for several years and has expertise working with economic development programs. A native of Wayne County and a Marshall University graduate, he joined Rahall's staff in 1977.

As part of his emphasis on education initiatives, Rahall has also appointed Birdie Kyle, formerly with the staff of Senator Jennings Randolph, as his Legislative Assistant for education. Dick Nevi, of Rahall's Beckley District Office and Bob Redd with his Washington staff, will assume additional responsibilities for economic development and federal grant programs. Kyle, Nevi and Redd are all West Virginia natives. The staff reorganization does not affect Rahall's Mining and Natural Resources Subcommittee staff, which functions under Rahall's auspices as subcommittee chairman.

"I think that the new Congress offers some exciting opportunities for the people of the Fourth Congressional District and I pledge to give them the type of quality representation they deserve and expect," Rahall said.