

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

CONGRESSMAN

# Nick Rahall

WEST VIRGINIA-4th DISTRICT

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## RAHALL LANDS SEAT ON EDUCATION AND LABOR COMMITTEE

**WASHINGTON --** U.S. Rep. Nick Rahall (D-W.Va.) has been selected by the House Democratic Steering and Policy Committee to serve on the powerful House Committee on Education and Labor. The Committee has jurisdiction over many federal social and human resources programs which provide essential services to the needy.

In addition to primary, secondary, and higher education funding, the Education and Labor Committee also has jurisdiction over important programs for West Virginia, including Headstart, Chapter 1 for disadvantaged children, Older Americans Act, school lunch, Women and Infant Children (WIC), vocational education, education for the handicapped, children's day care, as well as the Black Lung Program and the Job Training Partnership Act. Rahall, long recognized for his positive involvement in labor-related matters before the Education and Labor Committee, now plans to commit himself as much as possible to education issues.

"While education is truly a state and local function and responsibility, we in Washington have an obligation to see that there is a basic floor under those essential educational services for all children and adults in this country, especially those who are disadvantaged," Rahall said. "An educated citizenry is our Nation's strongest defense!"

Rahall noted that the hard-driving Education and Labor Committee has already scheduled full public hearings on the reauthorization of the School Lunch Act, and WIC Program throughout the month of February. Hearings are also scheduled during the month of March on the reauthorization of the Vocational Education Act, which will be extremely important to West Virginia's future workforce, as well as the retraining of the unemployed.

"All of these programs provide daily life-giving benefits to many at-risk children and youth in our State," Rahall said. "I am honored to be a Member of the authorizing committee that preserves and protects these programs."