## Vick Rahal

WEST VIRGINIA-4th DISTRICT

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Rahall Accepts Budget Resolution

WASHINGTON D.C. - U.S. Rep. Nick Rahall (D-W.Va.) gave his support to the bipartisan budget resolution reached by the Congress and the President, as the House of Representatives today voted to accept the resolution. Describing the resolution as the first major step in crafting a budget for the next fiscal year, Rahall described some benefits the budget holds for West Virginians and the nation.

"This budget resolution provides \$15 million in increased funding for child nutrition programs under the School Lunch Act, and a child-specific setaside of \$115 million out of a \$200 million expansion of Medicaid Programs. Equally important to me is the \$150 million expansion of the Special Supplemental Food Assistance Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC)." Rahall explained.

"At the same time the agreement reaches Gramm-Rudman targets while protecting low-income, high priority programs for disadvantaged school children under Chapter 1, education of handicapped children, Head Start, community and child health, child care and early development, student aid and Medicaid." Rahall said.

"Obviously, I am pleased to note that the budget plan assumes a 3.6 percent pay increase for both civilian and military personnel, and that Cost of Living Adjustments (COLA's) for social security recipients and other entitlement programs are assured. The resolution urges the appropriations process to provide full funding of small urban transit systems under Section 9 of the Federal Mass Transportation Act of 1987. Section 9 recipients in WV are Parkersburg, Charleston, Wheeling and Huntington. It recognizes the need to increase funding for the job training of dislocated workers under the Economic Dislocation and Worker Assistance Act provision in Title III of JTPA. It recommends that the Appropriations Committee fund programs promoting rural economic development, such as ARC and EDA." Rahall added.

Finally, the House adopted an amendment to the FY 1990 Budget Resolution that increases veterans medical care to \$11.57 billion that is \$830 million over the Bush budget and \$264 million above the baseline." Rahall explained.

Rahall in a statement to his colleagues reminded them of the President's pledge to the American People of "no new taxes." "But the President is. President of all the people, not just those who are so fortunate as not to need SSI assistance, or old age disability benefits, or Older Americans Employment programs. He is the President of those who do need those programs in order to have any quality or dignity of life. is that the President has realized that if he wants to bake a budget cake and eat it too, he has to provide part of the ingredients, which includes taxes." Rahall said.

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"I am voting for this resolution because West Virginia, hard as she is struggling for survival and growth, still is not enjoying the warm winds of recovery being experienced in the rest of the Nation. Today's vote provides some breathing room for those in this Nation in West Virginia's position to be able to live, to have food, shelter, clothing, medical attention, and a quality education to help families and their children break the cycle of poverty once and for all." Rahall said, "As a matter of fact, I will read President Bush's lips (lips that have begun to whisper the word taxes), if he will read my mail, and listen to the people of West Virginia."

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