FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE JUNE 8, 1989 CONTACT: JIM ZOIA (202) 226-7761

UMW HONORED BY RAHALL RESOLUTION

WASHINGTON, D.C. -- U.S. Rep. Nick J. Rahall (D-WV) today introduced a Resolution to designate January 25, 1990, as "American Coal Miner Day" in honor of the 100th Anniversary of the United Mine Workers of America which takes place on January 25, 1990.

"Over the years, the United Mine Workers of America have made a great contribution to society," Rahall said. "They played a dominant role in the transformation of the American labor movement during the 20th century and have been instrumental in assisting millions of working men and women to achieve a fair measure of economic security and social justice."

Rahall noted that the United Mine Workers of America were a pioneer advocate of the passage of such significant legislation as the prohibition of child labor, the eight-hour work day, worker's compensation, the right to organize and bargain collectively, and Social Security. In addition, since its inception the UMWA has sought to combat racial, religious and ethnic discrimination.

"The American coal miner has faced a great many adversities in producing the fuel which fostered the industrialization of the United States, and which is a major contributor to the Nation's energy security today," Rahall stated. "I think it is only fitting that these brave men and women be recognized for their labors."