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THURSDAY, JULY 20, 1989

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RAHALL ANNOUNCES EDUCATION GRANTS FOR THE HANDICAPPED

WASHINGTON, DC -- U. S. Rep. Nick J. Rahall, II (D-W.Va.) today announced that the United States Department of Education has awarded two grants to the state of West Virginia for the purpose of providing increased assistance to handicapped children in public schools.

The first grant, in the amount of \$787,729, will be used to develop enriched educational programs for the handicapped, to provide specialized training for teachers, and to assist in parent counseling. Over 1,500 children in West Virginia qualify for funds under this grant.

Additionally, the Department of Education has awarded a grant in the amount of \$14,490,093 to West Virginia. These funds will be used to identify handicapped students, provide early assistance to them, and to hire additional staff to serve their individual needs.

"I am pleased that over \$15 million will be available to help these special children get a good start on the rest of their lives. These grants will increase the level, intensity, and quality of services provided to handicapped children in West Virginia," Rahall said.