

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

CONGRESSMAN

# Nick Rahall

WEST VIRGINIA-4th DISTRICT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## RAHALL CALLS BUSH'S DRUG WAR MORE OF A SKIRMISH

WASHINGTON, D.C.-- Congressman Nick J. Rahall, II (D-WV) pronounced today that the President's War on Drugs is really a skirmish with many battles left to go.

"The President has at least now agreed to fund actions we took during the last Congress to implement the law of the land-- the Omnibus Anti-Drug Abuse Act of 1988," said Rahall. "However, any federal program depends on one word President Bush finds difficult to say-- taxes. So he decided to route the issue by robbing Peter to pay Paul."

Although the president says no new taxes, what is really meant is no new federal taxes. Educators should be aware that, in order to meet the President's mandate for their design and implementation of drug education and prevention programs among school children, they must fund such programs-- matching any federal funding dollar for dollar. If they do not, they will lose other federal education programs, including chapter 1 compensatory education for poor children, education for the handicapped, vocational education, and student aid.

"Of course I support a national drug program, anyone who cares about our country and our children's futures would. But I do not support a policy that forces the burden of support on the state tax-payer, or on outlays to programs that have already been promised monies-- especially when the plan is as vague as this one. It's not fair to the people of West Virginia who are already over burdened enough with state and local taxes," concluded Rahall.

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