

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Tuesday, December 5, 1989 CONTACT: STEPHEN SPINA PHONE: (202) 225-3452

U.S. Congressman

WORKING FOR WEST VIRGINIANS

Nick Raha

RAHALL OPENS DOOR TO KUWAIT-WEST VIRGINIA TRADE -ESTABLISHES RAHALL SCHOLARSHIP FUND-

WASHINGTON, D.C.-- Congressman Nick J. Rahall, II (D-WV) announced today that with the National Association of Arab Americans Foundation (NAAAF), a scholarship program has been established for college-bound students from Southern West Virginia in his name. Also, Rahall met with the Kuwait Chamber of Commerce and has made important headway in establishing trade relations between West Virginia and that Arab Country.

The Nick J. Rahall Scholarship Program, which will be up and running by fall 1990, is sponsored by the NAAAF, and will be made available to students from the 4th District based on economic need and academic merit. The scholarships will be given to selected applicants as two or four year scholarships in the amount of \$2,000.

Of the five colleges in Rahall's district, a selection panel will be established comprised of educators, college financial aid officers, and representatives from the business and labor groups in the area. They will be asked to chose the most qualified students from a pool of applications.

Also, Rahall met with leaders of the Kuwait Chamber of Commerce and has convinced them to allow the State Chamber of Commerce of West Virginia and other interested industries to advertise in their national trade publication at no cost.

Rahall said that the State Chamber's Board will be meeting in January to discuss promoting trade between the State and Kuwait. Rahall is also working on putting together a West Virginia Trade Delegation to the Middle East in the Spring of 1990.

Governor Caperton has endorsed Rahall's efforts in this area and is supportive of his initiatives to create trade opportunities between the Kuwait and West Virginia.

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