

U.S. Congressman Nick Rah

WORKING FOR WEST VIRGINIANS

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ROUND 2

RAHALL DECLARES VICTORY ON

CORPS REORGANIZATION

WASHINGTON, DC -- U. S. Rep. Nick Rahall (D-W.Va.) declared victory over the second Clinton proposal which would have implemented a U.S Army Corps of Engineers reorganization adversely affecting the Huntington Army Corps of Engineers District Office.

Today, the House Committee on Appropriations struck provisions in President Clinton's recission bill which would have allowed the Corps to spend funds to reorganize Corps district offices. The Administration's proposal would have rescinded a prohibition on spending funds to reorganize district offices which Rep. Rahall and Senator Robert C. Byrd had included in an earlier appropriations bill.

"The Committee's action today assures protection for the Corps Huntington District Office through fiscal year 1994. It is my hope the Corps will spend some time working with me and others in the Congress developing a reasonable reorganization plan. I would hope that Corps district employees would be fully involved in the process," Rahall said.

"The infrastructure needs of our nation are too great to be penciled into little organizational charts on some General's desk in Washington. The reorganization should also take into account the local economic effects of proposed changes in corps operations," Rahall said. "I plan to discuss Marshall University's geotechnical center with the Corps as well."

Recently, the Clinton Administration also sent a bill to the Congress, H.R. 3400, which would have allowed the Corps to reorganize its division and district offices nationwide. Last week Rahall's Public Works and Transportation included a provision in the bill requiring the Corps to submit a reorganization to Congress for approval before it took any action to implement the plan.

Rahall is a senior ranking member of the House Public Works and Transportation Committee which will have jurisdiction over any corps reorganization proposal. The full House will consider the bill in the near future.

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