



U.S. Congressman

Nick Rahall

WORKING FOR WEST VIRGINIANS

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STATE EDUCATIONAL AGENCIES AWARDED FIVE SPECIAL EDUCATION GRANTS

WASHINGTON, D.C. -- U.S. Rep. Nick Rahall (D-WV) announced that the Department of Education has awarded five Education grants to West Virginia State Educational Agencies. The funding for four of the five grants is authorized by the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act.

An annual grant to West Virginia State Educational Agencies (SEAs) has been designated in the amount of **\$17,580,460**. The funding has been issued to provide a public and appropriate education to West Virginia children with disabilities. This includes the employment of greater personnel to improve the quantity and quality of service provided to the children.

\$2,726,359 is awarded to the SEA Preschool program, providing services to children between the ages of 3 and 5 years. The funding will enable the greater distribution of services to these children, including family-involvement programs and community-based educational programs and services.

Over **\$1,200,000** has been allocated to lead agencies which provide educational systems to infants and toddlers throughout the state. The funding will provide early intervention services for infants and toddlers and their families throughout West Virginia.

Grant funds will be awarded in the amount of **\$732,521** to provide assistance to children with disabilities who attend schools operated or supported by the State Educational Agencies. This funding will also provide for children with disabilities who have left the State Educational facilities and are receiving services on the local level.

In addition, the Department of Education has granted **\$133,500** to State Educational Agencies in West Virginia under the Robert C. Byrd Honors Scholarship Program. This program will enable selected West Virginia high school seniors who have demonstrated excellence in their academic communities to receive college scholarships.

"It is the responsibility of our government on all levels, to ensure that children of all abilities receive ample opportunity and the necessary resources to achieve a thorough education," Rahall stated. "An education is priceless; therefore we must work to provide the best educational sources for the children of West Virginia," concluded Rahall.

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