

U.S. Congressman
Nick Rahall
WORKING FOR WEST VIRGINIANS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MAY 17, 1990

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RAHALL, COLLEAGUES PRESS SPEAKER TO HOLD FIRM AGAINST BUSH TAXES

WASHINGTON, D.C.— U.S. Rep. Nick Rahall (D-WV) has joined with many of his colleagues in urging Speaker of the House Tom Foley to hold firm in opposing President Bush's plan to increase taxes.

"The words of President Bush resounded through every household in America less than two years ago: Read my lips, no new taxes. The President must now explain to the American people why we can no longer read his lips. What has changed in those months since the President assumed office? Our budget is as bad off now as it was then." Rahall said.

Disturbed by Republican Senator Simpson's comments, upon leaving a briefing at the White House, that value added taxes, user fees, excise taxes, and one cent national sales tax are all being considered, Rahall urged Foley to pin President Bush down on exactly what kind of taxes he had in mind. He also urged Foley to insist that if we need new taxes, then tax those who have received the greatest breaks over the last decade-- the rich.

"If President Bush insists that we need new taxes, then we feel they must be levied against those who have gotten the biggest tax cuts in recent years and have enjoyed the lion's share of income growth-- those at the very high end of the income scale, families and individuals with incomes of more than \$200,000 a year," added Rahall.

"Working and middle class families have fought for a decade against declining wages while their tax burden has gone up. We believe that any agreement with the White House that puts a further burden on these families rather than the very wealthy, will not receive support within the Democratic Caucus and should not be supported by House negotiators," said Rahall.

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HON. MARTIN OLAV SABO (Minn.) — Chairman

SCOTT LILLY — Executive Director

May 9, 1990

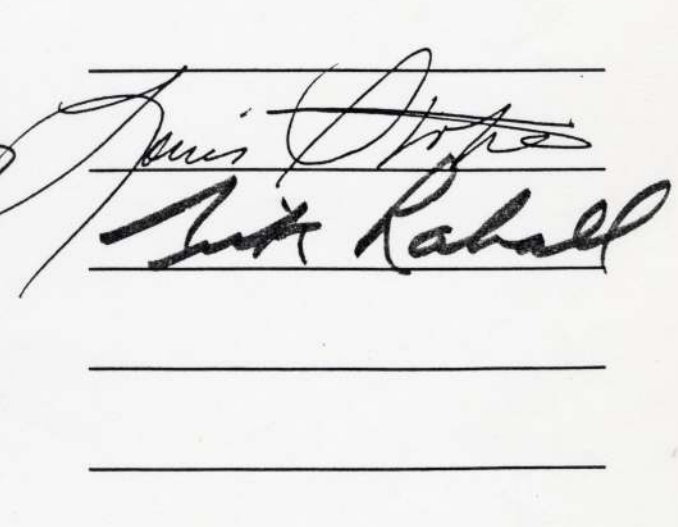
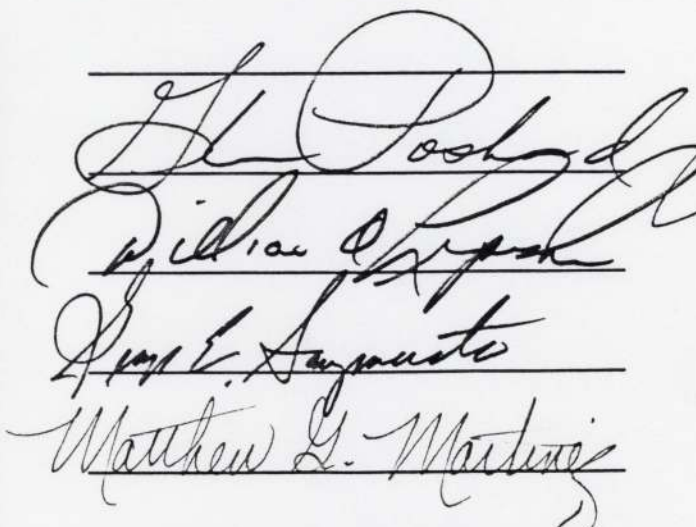
The Honorable Thomas S. Foley
Speaker Of the House of Representatives
H-204, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Mr. Speaker:

We are disturbed that the budget negotiations which have been called by President Bush are creating momentum for a tax package directed against America's middle class families. Republican Senator Simpson, upon leaving the White House mentioned value added taxes, user fees, excise taxes, a one cent national sales tax..."all sorts of things like that are in the mix."

If President Bush insists that we need new taxes, then we feel they must be levied against those who have gotten the biggest tax cuts in recent years and have enjoyed the lion's share of income growth--those at the very high end of the income scale, families and individuals with incomes of more than \$200,000 a year. Working and middle class families have fought for a decade against declining wages while their tax burden has gone up. We believe that any agreement with the White House that puts a further burden on these families rather than the very wealthy, will not receive support within the Democratic Caucus and should not be supported by House negotiators.

Sincerely,



cc: The Honorable Richard Gephardt
The Honorable Dan Rostenkowski
The Honorable Leon Panetta