



U.S. Congressman
Nick Rahall
WORKING FOR WEST VIRGINIANS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

JULY 30, 1991

CONTACT: STEVE SPINA

PHONE: (202) 225-3452

**COAST GUARD LOOKING FOR NEW STICKERS ON LEISURE BOATS
- RAHALL URGES BOAT OWNERS TO PURCHASE NEW STICKERS OR FACE FINE --**

WASHINGTON, D.C. -- U.S. Rep. Nick Rahall (D-WV) today urged all sailboat and motorboat owners whose crafts are more than 16 feet long to purchase their new Federal Recreational Vessel Fee sticker.

The sticker is required of 16 foot boat owners by August 1st; however, no one will be fined for not complying with the new law by Sept. 1. Sticker prices vary, depending on the size of the boat, said Rahall.

Coast Guard Chief Warrant Officer David Pierce says the sticker is required of all vessels over 16 feet long that travel on waterways that could theoretically travel downstream, through locks or canals, to tidal waterways.

The Coast Guard has also said that boat owners who are fined during September can have the ticket dismissed if they send proof that they bought the sticker within 30 days of the citation.

"Boat owners need to know about this new sticker," said Rahall. "After October 1st, those without the sticker could face fines of up to \$5,000."

If you have any question about the eligibility of your boat or how to obtain the sticker, you can call the local Coast Guard Marine Safety office in Huntington at 529-5524.

-30-