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RAHALL'S BATTLE CRY: BE AMERICAN, BUY AMERICAN

WASHINGTON, D.C. -- U.S. Rep. Nick Rahall (D-WV), fed up with ever increasing trade deficits with Japan and Germany, has introduced legislation to designate Labor Day week (Sept. 2-8) as "Buy America Week." Already, 84 of Rahall's colleagues have joined him by cosponsoring this measure.

"The American people are fed up with the United States trade policy," said Rahall. "American workers are tired of seeing their hard work being passed over for cheaper goods produced by slave labor in countries like Mexico."

"This legislation is a wake-up call to the Administration and the American people. We still produce the best goods in the world, and we need to protect our interests both here and abroad. So if you want to be American, buy American."

Rahall quoted trade statistics that placed the United States with the number one ranking worldwide in trade deficits (\$110 billion). Germany and Japan both had trade surpluses, \$44 billion and \$32 billion respectively.

"The Japanese want to sell us everything from toasters to televisions to cars; yet we cannot even export rice to their country," said Rahall.

Rahall warned the U.S. cannot travel down the road their on much longer. "We have a mountain of foreign debt totaling \$660 billion. Germany and Japan are on the plus side."

Rahall urged everyone to support his efforts to have "Buy America Week." The money we put back into our economy is not only good for workers, its good for business and industry as well. He stressed that buying American provides jobs for American workers, boosts American businesses and strengthens the United States economy.

"We need to remind ourselves that we have the brightest, strongest, most motivated work force in the world, and they should not be taken for granted," said Rahall. "Buy America Week reminds of that fact."

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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

July 16, 1991

"BUY AMERICAN WEEK"
SEPTEMBER 2 - 8
SIGN ON NOW!

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Dear Colleague:

Yesterday, I introduced H.J.Res 299, which will declare the week beginning September 2 1991, Labor Day, "Buy American Week." With this resolution I seek to honor American workers who take pride in producing quality products and to raise consumers' awareness to the importance of purchasing American-made goods.

Although products made by American workers are often more costly than those made by their counterparts in other countries, it is for a good reason. Laborers in the United States are better compensated for their efforts than foreign workers, who often work for under \$1 an hour.

Don't forget that American workers are also consumers. The money they earn is put back into the United States' economy. Just as American business and factories put money into our economy by employing workers, paying taxes and contributing to social security and unemployment funds.

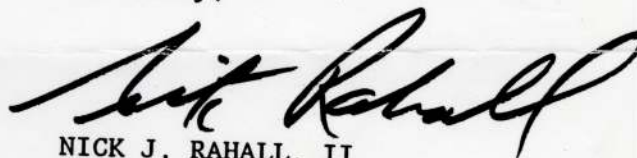
Quality is another reason to purchase American-made products. American made goods are high quality goods which reflect the pride Americans take in their work and in their country. American workers have more incentive to produce superior merchandise because they are producing for themselves and their neighbors.

All Americans need to be aware of the importance of purchasing American made goods. Buying American provides jobs for American workers, boosts American businesses and strengthens the United States economy. "Buy American Week" is one step in raising this awareness and putting the United States economy back on the right track.

If you would like to join me by cosponsoring H.J. Res. 299 please contact me or Jackie Duclos, of my staff, at X5-3452.

With warm regard, I am,

Sincerely,



NICK J. RAHALL, II
Member of Congress