



U.S. Congressman
Nick Rahall
WORKING FOR WEST VIRGINIANS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

JANUARY 6, 1993

CONTACT: STEVE SPINA

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**RAHALL BECOMES CHAIRMAN OF HIGHWAY SUBCOMMITTEE
-- POSITION GIVES HIM CRUCIAL VOICE ON FEDERAL HIGHWAY LEGISLATION --**

WASHINGTON, D.C. -- U.S. Rep. Nick Rahall (D-WV) today was elected by his colleagues from the Committee on Public Works and Transportation to become the chairman of the Surface Transportation Subcommittee, the foremost voice in Congress on highway legislation.

"West Virginia now has a seat at the head of the table during consideration of federal highway legislation," said Rahall.

The 36 Member panel which Rahall will chair has jurisdiction over federal highway and mass transit legislation as well as the motor carrier industry. It is viewed as being a crucial Congressional forum for the consideration of any new infrastructure legislation.

"In the last highway bill West Virginia received more money than at any time in our history," said Rahall. "It was a good start, but the work must be continued and our agenda realized. New funding has to be found if we are ever to achieve our new generation of roads in southern West Virginia."

The Surface Transportation Subcommittee's immediate agenda will include conducting oversight on the implementation of the landmark federal highway bill enacted during the last Congress, known as the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act of 1991 (ISTEA). In that measure the stage was set for a new National Highway System and the construction of a number of high-priority corridors, two of which are slated to crisscross southern West Virginia.

In accepting the new position, Rahall relinquished the chairmanship of the Subcommittee on Mining and Natural Resources on the Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs (newly named the Natural Resources Committee), a post he held for the last seven years.

Under the rules of the House of Representatives, a Member can chair only one subcommittee. Rahall, however, will remain a senior Member of the Natural Resources Committee and the leading voice on mining issues, including those dealing with the Office of Surface Mining.

Rahall is now the third most senior Member of the entire Public Works and Transportation Committee in addition to being the new Chairman of the Surface Transportation Subcommittee.

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For you and Steve
to embellish.
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RAHALL IS NEW CHAIRMAN
OF SURFACE TRANSPORTATION SUBCOMMITTEE

WASHINGTON, D.C. -- The Members of the Committee on Public Works and Transportation today elected U.S. Rep. Nick J. Rahall (D-WV) to chair the Subcommittee on Surface Transportation.

The 36 Member panel has jurisdiction over federal highway and mass transit legislation as well as the motor carrier industry. It is viewed as being a crucial Congressional forum for the consideration of any new infrastructure legislation advanced by the new Clinton Administration.

"West Virginia now has a seat at the head of the table during consideration of federal highway legislation," Rahall said.

The Subcommittee's immediate agenda will include conducting oversight on the implementation of the landmark federal highway bill enacted during the last Congress, known as the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act of 1991 (ISTEA). In that measure, the stage was set for a new National Highway System and the construction of a number high-priority highway corridors, two of which are slated to transverse West Virginia.

In accepting the new position, Rahall relinquished the chairmanship of the Subcommittee on Mining and Natural Resources on the Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs (newly named the Natural Resources Committee), a post he held for the last seven years. Under the rules of the House of Representatives, a Member can only chair one subcommittee. Rahall, however, will remain a senior Member of the Natural Resources Committee. In addition, also today the Democratic Caucus of that Committee abolished the Mining Subcommittee and formed a Mining Task Force on the full Committee level which Rahall will chair.

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JANUARY 5, 1993

CONTACT: STEVE SPINA

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RAHALL BECOMES CHAIRMAN OF HIGHWAY PANEL

~~RAHALL AND SENATOR BYRD FORM AN UNBEATABLE COMBINATION~~

WASHINGTON, D.C. -- U.S. Rep. Nick Rahall (D-WV) today was elected by his colleagues from the Committee on Public Works and Transportation to become the chairman of the Surface Transportation Subcommittee, the foremost voice in Congress on highway legislation.

J2 quote "WITH SENATOR BYRD AS CHAIRMAN OF THE SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE AND WITH MY NEW ROLE AS CHAIRMAN OF THE HIGHWAY PANEL, WEST VIRGINIA HAS AN UNBEATABLE 1-2 PUNCH ON ROADS," SAID RAHALL.

THE 36 MEMBER PANEL WHICH RAHALL WILL CHAIR HAS JURISDICTION OVER FEDERAL HIGHWAY AND MASS TRANSIT LEGISLATION AS WELL AS THE MOTOR CARRIER INDUSTRY. IT IS VIEWED AS BEING A CRUCIAL CONGRESSIONAL FORUM FOR THE CONSIDERATION OF ANY NEW INFRASTRUCTURE LEGISLATION.

"IN THE LAST HIGHWAY BILL WEST VIRGINIA RECEIVED MORE MONEY THAN AT ANY TIME IN OUR HISTORY," SAID RAHALL. "IT WAS A GOOD START BUT THE WORK MUST BE CONTINUED AND OUR AGENDA ~~FOLLOWED THROUGH ON~~ *REALIZED*. DIRT MUST FLY AND NEW FUNDING FOUND IF WE ARE EVER TO ~~REALIZE~~ *ACHIEVE* OUR NEW GENERATION OF ROADS IN SOUTHERN WEST VIRGINIA."

THE SURFACE TRANSPORTATION SUBCOMMITTEE'S IMMEDIATE AGENDA WILL INCLUDE CONDUCTING OVERSIGHT ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE LANDMARK FEDERAL HIGHWAY BILL ENACTED DURING THE LAST CONGRESS, KNOWN AS THE INTERMODAL SURFACE TRANSPORTATION EFFICIENCY ACT OF 1991 (ISTEA). IN THAT MEASURE THE STAGE WAS SET FOR A NEW NATIONAL HIGHWAY SYSTEM AND THE CONSTRUCTION OF A NUMBER OF HIGH-PRIORITY CORRIDORS, TWO OF WHICH ARE SLATED TO CRISSCROSS SOUTHERN WEST VIRGINIA.

IN ACCEPTING THE NEW POSITION, RAHALL RELINQUISHED THE CHAIRMANSHIP OF THE SUBCOMMITTEE ON MINING AND NATURAL RESOURCES ON THE COMMITTEE ON INTERIOR AND INSULAR AFFAIRS (NEWLY NAMED THE NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE), A POST HE HELD FOR THE LAST SEVEN YEARS.

UNDER THE RULES OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, A MEMBER CAN CHAIR ONLY ONE SUBCOMMITTEE. RAHALL, HOWEVER, WILL REMAIN A SENIOR MEMBER OF THE NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE. ~~IN ADDITION, ALSO TODAY THE DEMOCRATIC CAUCUS OF THAT COMMITTEE ABOLISHED THE MINING SUBCOMMITTEE AND FORMED A MINING TASK FORCE ON THE FULL COMMITTEE LEVEL WHICH RAHALL WILL CHAIR.~~

RAHALL IS NOW THE THIRD MOST SENIOR MEMBER OF THE ENTIRE PUBLIC WORKS AND TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE IN ADDITION TO BEING THE NEW CHAIRMAN OF THE SURFACE TRANSPORTATION SUBCOMMITTEE.

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MEDIA ALERT :