

0ct. 19

THIS IS CONGRESSMAN NICK RAHALL.

CONGRESS HAS RECENTLY APPROVED LEGISLATION, WHICH IS AWAITING PRESIDENT REGAN'S SIGNATURE, THAT WOULD PROVIDE AN 11.2 PERCENT AVERAGE COST OF LIVING ADJUSTMENT IN COMPENSATION FOR OVER 2.3 MILLION DISABLED VETERANS AND 324,000 SURVIVING SPOUSES.

THIS MEASURE IS A MAJOR STEP IN PROVIDING NECESSARY CARE FOR THE MORE SERIOUSLY DISABLED VETERANS--INDIVIDUALS WHO HAVE ALREADY PROVEN THEIR COURAGE AND LOVE FOR THIS COUNTRY BY THEIR DEDICATED SERVICE.

CONGRESS HAS ALSO APPROVED A MEASURE TO PROVIDE ASSISTANCE TO VIETNAM-ERA VETERANS IN THE BUSINESS WORLD. THIS BILL, ~~HR 3499~~, WILL MAKE THESE VETERANS ELIGIBLE FOR LOAN GUARANTEES AND DIRECT LOAN ASSISTANCE FOR FIVE YEARS IN ORDER TO ACQUIRE, EXPAND OR START A BUSINESS.

I AM PROUD TO HAVE SUPPORTED BOTH OF THESE MEASURES, AND ESPECIALLY PLEASED THAT THE PROGRAMS THEY INITIATE MEET THE STRICT BUDGET RESTRAINTS CONGRESS HAS SET. ~~IN THE COMING~~ ^a ~~MONTHS, THIS~~ ^{that} FACT WILL BE IMPORTANT AS EFFORTS ARE CONTINUED TO PROVIDE NEED ^{ed} PUBLIC SERVICES, WHILE STILL KEEPING GOVERNMENT SPENDING UNDER CONTROL.

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