

TAPE FOR THE WEEK OF JULY 27.

THIS IS CONGRESSMAN NICK RAHALL.

THERE HAS BEEN MUCH DISCUSSION LATELY IN WASHINGTON, AND IN WEST VIRGINIA, ABOUT THE FUTURE OF THE SOCIAL SECURITY SYSTEM. WHEREVER I TRAVEL IN SOUTHERN WEST VIRGINIA, PEOPLE TELL ME THAT THEY <sup>FEAR</sup> THE HARD-EARNED DOLLARS THEY HAVE PAID INTO THE SYSTEM WILL NOT BE THERE WHEN IT COMES TIME FOR THEM TO RETIRE.

THE ADMINISTRATION HAS PROPOSED A NUMBER OF CHANGES IN THE SOCIAL SECURITY SYSTEM, BUT JUST LAST WEEK, CONGRESS--WITH THE SUPPORT OF THE AMERICAN PEOPLE, OVERWHELMINGLY VOTED AGAINST THE PRESIDENT'S<sup>S</sup> DESIRE TO ELIMINATE MINIMUM SOCIAL SECURITY BENEFITS.

THERE IS NO DOUBT THAT THE SYSTEM'S TRUST FUND NEEDS BOLSTERING, BUT TO SOLVE THE PRESENT SITUATION IS NOT TO USE DEEP AND IMMEDIATE BENEFIT CUTS. RATHER A COMBINATION OF APPROACHES CAN BE USED THAT WILL PROVIDE SOLVENCY OF THE SOCIAL SECURITY SYSTEM, WITHOUT MAKING THE AMERICAN PEOPLE FEARFUL FOR THE FUTURE OF THEIR RETIREMENT INCOME.

THIS IS CONGRESSMAN NICK RAHALL.