

CONGRESSMAN NICK RAHALL REPORTS

FOR USE: week of 5/4

subject: Older Americans

one minute

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TAPE FOR 5/5

THIS IS CONGRESSMAN NICK RAHALL.

I HAVE JOINED AN EFFORT IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES TO CONTINUE THE WORK OF THE OLDER AMERICANS ACT, WHICH WAS ORIGINALLY PASSED IN 1965.

THE PRODUCTIVE PROGRAMS INITIATED BY THIS ACT, HAVE BEEN A SUCCESS.

PRESENTLY IT PROVIDES SOCIAL SERVICES, INCLUDING LEGAL SERVICES AND TRANSPORTATION FOR SOME 9.3 MILLION OLDER AMERICANS.

IT PROVIDES DAILY HOT MEALS FOR 528,000 ELDERLY CITIZENS IN OVER 12,000 CENTERS LOCATED NATIONWIDE, WITH ANOTHER 83,000 DAILY HOT MEALS PROVIDED TO HOMEBOUND ELDERLY CITIZENS.

AND THIS ACT, ALSO PROVIDES PART TIME EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES ~~FOR~~ FOR MORE THAN 50,000 OTHER OLDER AMERICANS.

THE BILL I HAVE CO-SPONSORED WILL RE-AUTHORIZE THE OLDER AMERICANS ACT FOR ANOTHER 3 YEARS. IT HAS PROVEN TO BE A WORTHWHILE PROGRAM THAT DESERVES TO CONTINUE TO SERVE NEEDS OF THOSE, WHO OTHERWISE WOULD NOT RECIEVE SUCH ASSISTANCE.

IN THESE TIMES WHEN WE QUESTION THE GOOD GOVERNMENT DOES, THERE IS NO QUESTION THAT THE OLDER AMERICANS ACT IS GOVERNMENT AT ITS BEST.

THIS IS CONGRESSMAN NICK RAHALL.