

WTNJ TAPE JAN 13

THIS IS CONGRESSMAN NICK RAHALL.

AMONG THE NEW LAWS ENACTED IN THE LAST WEEKS OF THE 96TH CONGRESS ARE MANY THAT DID NOT MAKE HEADLINES, YET AFFECT MILLIONS OF AMERICANS.

ONE ~~SUCH LAW~~ ^{Bill} WILL ~~HAVE THE~~ ^{enable the} VETERANS ADMINISTRATION CONDUCT A FOUR-YEAR PILOT PROGRAM TO TRY TO HELP VETERANS WITH SERVICE CONNECTED DISABILITIES, ~~WHO ARE UNABLE TO BENEFIT FROM THE~~ ^{to} ~~AGENCY'S REHABILITATION PROGRAM.~~ AS MANY AS 500 VETERANS A YEAR WILL RECEIVE AID, INCLUDING CASH PAYMENTS, INTENDED TO MAKE THEM MORE INDEPENDENT IN THEIR DAILY LIVING.

ANOTHER LAW PASSED WILL SEE ~~TO IT THAT~~ ^{help} WIDOWS OR WIDOWERS OF MILITARY RETIREES NO LONGER FACE THE THREAT OF LOSING THEIR ENTIRE MILITARY SURVIVORS BENEFITS IF THEY BEGIN COLLECTING SOCIAL SECURITY PAYMENTS ALSO. ~~UP UNTIL NOW,~~ ^{so that they} BENEFITS HAVE BEEN REDUCED BY AS MUCH AS 40 PERCENT, AND THIS NEW LAW ~~SHOULD RECTIFY~~ ^{Before} THIS INEQUITY. ^{will correct}

THE 96TH CONGRESS WILL ~~LIKEWISE TRY TO TAKE ON THE MAJOR~~ ^{begin a tough legislative agenda} ~~ISSUES THAT AFFECT ALL AMERICANS.~~ ^{major} ALL TOO OFTEN ~~SUCH~~ ACCOMPLISHMENTS ^{soon} ARE OVERLOOKED, BUT THE BENEFITS TO THE AMERICAN CAN NOT BE OVERLOOKED.

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