

TAPE FOR WEEK OF APRIL 12

THIS IS CONGRESSMAN NICK RAHALL.

FOREIGN IMPORTS ARE A CHIEF VILLIAN IN AMERICA'S ECONOMIC WOES, AND HAVE BROUGHT DISASTER TO WORKERS IN THE AUTOMOBILE INDUSTRY.

AT THE PRESENT TIME, IMPORTS COMPRISE OVER 31 PERCENT OF THE AUTO MARKET IN THIS COUNTRY, WHILE SALES OF AMERICAN-MADE CARS HAVE DROPPED 16 PERCENT, AND PRODUCTION IS DOWN 37 PERCENT FROM THIS TIME LAST YEAR. IN ALL THIS TRANSLATES INTO---OVER A QUARTER MILLION AUTO WORKERS LAID-OFF.

FOR WEST VIRGINIA, THESE FIGURES UNFORTUNATELY DO NOT TELL THE STORY OF LAID-OFF STEEL WORKERS AND COAL MINERS WHO ARE ALSO ADVERSELY AFFECTED BY FOREIGN AUTO IMPORTS.

FOR THIS REASON, I HAVE SPONSORED LEGISLATION THAT WOULD SUBSTANTIALLY RESTRICT THE IMPORTATION OF FOREIGN MADE AUTOS INTO THE UNITED STATES. IT IS MY BELIEF THAT SUCH ACTION IS ESSENTIAL TO PROVIDE SOME MEASURE OF RELIEF TO THE AMERICAN AUTOMOBILE INDUSTRY, ITS WORKERS AND OTHER RELATED INDUSTRIES, WHICH ARE ALL IMPORTANT TO OUR STATE AND NATION'S ECONOMY.

THIS IS CONGRESSMAN NICK RAHALL.