

TAPE FOR WEEK OF FEB. 1

THIS IS CONGRESSMAN NICK RAHALL.

AS THE UNEMPLOYMENT RATE HERE IN WEST VIRGINIA, AND THROUGHOUT AMERICA, HOVERS NEAR THE TEN PERCENT FIGURE-- THE JOB SERVICE PROGRAM IN OUR STATE HAS BEEN CUT ALMOST IN HALF, AND NEARLY 100 EMPLOYMENT SECURITY WORKERS HAVE BEEN LAYED-OFF THEMSELVES.

VERY CLEARLY, THIS OCCURANCE IS A RESULT OF THE ADMINISTRATION'S EFFORT TO REDUCE GOVERNMENT SPENDING AND TO BALANCE THE FEDERAL BUDGET.

DURING THE FIRST WEEK OF THIS YEAR, ONE MILLION ADDITIONAL AMERICANS JOINED THE RANKS OF THE JOBLESS AND APPLIED FOR UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION. THIS WAS THE LARGEST NUMERICAL INCREASE FOR ANY WEEK SINCE THE PROGRAM BEGAN.

HERE IN WEST VIRGINIA, AND IN OTHER STATES AS WELL, THERE IS A SAD IRONY THAT PEOPLE ARE GOING FROM ~~WXX~~ ASSISTING THE UNEMPLOYED--TO BEING THE UNEMPLOYED.

I AM WORKING WITH MY COLLEAUGES WHO SERVE ON THE APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES IN THE U.S. HOUSE TO REVIEW THIS SITUATION, IN THE HOPES OF RECTIFYING A SAD INJUSTICE.

THIS IS CONGRESSMAN NICK RAHALL.