

TAPE FOR WEEK OF JULY 11

THIS IS CONGRESSMAN NICK RAHALL.

A FEW MONTHS AGO, I DISCUSSED AN IMPORTANT LEGISLATIVE EFFORT THAT I HAD JOINED. TODAY, I AM HAPPY TO REPORT THAT IT IS MOVING SPEEDILY ALONG TO POSSIBLE PASSAGE BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

I AM REFERRING TO THE HEALTH CARE FOR THE UNEMPLOYED ACT, A MEASURE WHICH IS OF UTMOST IMPORTANCE TO THE PEOPLE OF SOUTHERN WEST VIRGINIA.

THIS BILL ADDRESSES A PROBLEM THAT WE HAVE BECOME ALL TOO FAMILIER WITH, AND DOES SO IN A REASONABLE AND AFFORDABLE WAY.

IT WOULD ENTITLE PEOPLE RECEIVING UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION, AND THEIR FAMLIES, AS WELL AS THOSE WHO HAVE LOST THEIR UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION BENEFITS IN THE PAST 2 YEARS, TO COVERAGE FOR BASIC HEALTH CARE SERVICES. THE PROGRAM WOULD BE OPTIONAL TO STATES, IF THEY CHOOSE TO PARTICIPATE, AND FEDERAL MATCHING DOLLARS WOULD BE MADE AVAILABLE AT A RATE THAT INCREASED AS THE STATE'S TOTAL UNEMPLOYMENT RATE INCREASED.

HERE IN WEST VIRGINIA, WE CAN CERTAINLY USE SUCH A PROGRAM, AND THAT IS WHY I AM SUPPORTING IT---TO ADDRESS AN IMMEDIATE AND SEVERE NEED FOR HEALTH CARE.

THIS IS YOUR CONGRESSMAN NICK RAHALL.