

TAPE FOR WEEK OF JUNE 6

THIS IS CONGRESSMAN NICK RAHALL.

LIBRARIES HAVE SERVED A UNIQUE ROLE IN OUR COMMUNITIES BY PROVIDING FREE PROGRAMS, RESOURCES, AND INFORMATION TO ALL IN THE AREA. THE FUNDS FOR LIBRARY SERVICES GO TO THE MAINTENANCE OF IMPORTANT PROGRAMS ALREADY IN EXISTANCE, SUCH AS FILMS FOR CHILDREN AND THE ELDERLY, BOOKMOBILE SERVICES FOR RURAL REGIONS, AND BOOK WAGONS FOR PATIENTS IN NURSING HOMES AND HOSPITALS.

WITH THIS IN MIND, IT IS HARD TO UNDERSTAND WHY PRESIDENT REAGAN HAS OMITTED ALL FEDERAL FUNDS FOR LIBRARY SERVICES FROM HIS 1984 BUDGET.

TO COMBAT THIS ACTION, I AND A NUMBER OF MY COLLEAGUES HAVE INTRODUCED A MEASURE TO BLOCK THE PRESIDENT'S ACTION.

LIBRARIES HAVE ALWAYS BEEN A INTEGRAL PART OF ALL THAT OUR COUNTRY EMBODIES, INCLUDING FREEDOM OF INFORMATION AND AN EDUCATED CITIZENARY. AS AN OPEN AND ENLIGHTENED SOCIETY, WE CANNOT ALLOW FUNDING FOR OUR PUBLIC LIBRARIES TO BE DISCONTINUED.

THIS IS YOUR CONGRESSMAN NICK RAHALL.