

TAPE FOR WEEK OF FEB. 20

THIS IS CONGRESSMAN NICK RAHALL.

RECENTLY, A MAJOR NATIONAL STUDY OF VIETNAM VETERANS REVEALS, THAT WHILE 70 PERCENT OF THE VETERANS AS A WHOLE WENT BACK TO SCHOOL AFTER LEAVING THE SERVICE, ONLY 20 PERCENT COMPLETED COLLEGE.

SINCE UNEMPLOYMENT IS SOARING AND THE JOB PICTURE GETS BLEAKER, EDUCATION FOR THESE MEN AND WOMEN IS A VIABLE AND PRACTICAL ANSWER.

FOR THIS REASON, I HAVE JOINED IN SPONSORING LEGISLATION THAT WOULD EXTEND THE TIME PERIOD FOR WHICH VIETNAM VETERANS MAY USE THEIR G.I. EDUCATIONAL BENEFITS.

CURRENT LAW STATES THAT A VIETNAM ERA VETERAN HAS TEN YEARS, FROM THE TIME OF DISCHARGE, TO USE HIS OR HER'S EDUCATIONAL BENEFITS. MY LEGISLATION WOULD PROVIDE AN ADDITIONAL 10 TO THIS TIME LIMIT. THEREFORE, IF A VETERAN WAS DISCHARGED IN 1970, THEY HAVE UNTIL 1990 TO COMPLETE COLLEGE.

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I CAN THINK OF NO BETTER WAY OUR NATION CAN SHOW ITS GRATITUDE TO THESE BRAVE INDIVIDUALS, THAN QUICK PASSAGE OF THIS LEGISLATION.

THIS IS YOUR CONGRESSMAN, NICK RAHALL.