



Minnesota's 4th District E-Report!

Congresswoman Betty McCollum

"Serving Minnesota's Families"



FEBRUARY 27, 2004

Hot News!

McCollum: Secretary Paige Must Resign

This week, Rep. Betty McCollum called upon President Bush to demand the resignation of U.S. Secretary of Education Rod Paige for branding the National Education Association (NEA) as a "terrorist organization."

"It was a deliberate attack, an example of Neo-McCarthyism at its worst," said McCollum. **"The Secretary's words harm public education, and are clearly intended to threaten the millions of American citizens the NEA honorably represents."**

Twenty other members of Congress joined McCollum in a letter to Bush calling for Paige's immediate resignation.

McCollum Introduces Legislation Establishing Livestock Tracking Technology to Ensure Food Safety

This week, Rep. Betty McCollum introduced legislation to enable the U.S. Department of Agriculture to trace livestock from birth to slaughter. McCollum's *National Livestock Identification Act* (H.R. 3822) calls for the Secretary of Agriculture to immediately establish an electronic nationwide livestock identification system.

"The safety of our food supply is critical to our families," said McCollum. "This technology will allow the Department of Agriculture to track an incidence of "mad cow" or other diseases in livestock like chronic wasting disease discovered in the United States within 48 hours. We are fortunate to have a pioneer in this important technology right in my home town of South Saint Paul, Minnesota."

McCollum's legislation allows the Secretary of Agriculture to consider existing technologies. Digital Angel of South St. Paul has been on the cutting edge of innovative technology to track cattle. The measure also provides assistance to farmers and producers in their efforts to comply with such a tracking system.

Dakota County Board Meets with McCollum



Dakota County Commissioner Kathleen Gaylord and Chairwoman Nancy Schouweiler meets with Rep. Betty McCollum as part of an ongoing effort to strengthen their partnership on transportation and natural resources issues.

The Week Ahead

March 1 — Rep. McCollum will participate in a town hall with students from Tartan High School on citizenship and current events in Congress.

March 3 — Education and the Workforce Hearing on the No Child Left Behind Act. They will also discuss ways to improve the results of children with disabilities.

March 3 — Through the Close-Up Foundation, Rep. McCollum will greet students and teachers from Como Park High School.

March 3 — Minnesota representatives of the Girl Scouts of America will discuss the release of their new safety report with Rep. McCollum.

Contact Congresswoman Betty McCollum . . . www.house.gov/mccollum/contact.html

Washington Office: 1029 Longworth HOB, Washington, DC 20515 ♦ phone / (202) 225-6631 ♦ fax / (202) 225-1968

St. Paul Office: 165 Western Ave. N., #17, St. Paul, MN 55102 ♦ phone / (651) 224-9191 ♦ fax / (651) 224-3056