

From: Congresswoman Betty McCollum [betty.mccollum@congressnewsletter.com]

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CONGRESSWOMAN
Betty McCollum
MINNESOTA'S 4th DISTRICT

Congresswoman Betty McCollum - Minnesota's 4th District

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Dear Friend,

Below you will find information about issues that I am working on in Congress. If you have not signed-up for my E-Newsletter, please [click here to stay updated](#). You can also [visit my website](#) for the latest information on the work that I do on behalf of Minnesota families. I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Congresswoman Betty McCollum
Minnesota's 4th District

News Alert:

We Need a Plan to Invest in American Jobs

More than 43,000 manufacturing jobs have been lost in Minnesota since President Bush took office. The economic policies of President Bush and the Republican Congress are failing Minnesota families. Rather than offering a comprehensive strategy to put people back to work, this week Republicans are merely proposing to reauthorize the Manufacturing Extension Partnership (MEP), despite the fact that the bill does not provide any actual funding. Much more

The Linscheid Family of St. Paul Meets with Betty



Donn and Therese Linscheid of St. Paul, along with their children Neil, Kyle, Jacob and Donelle met with Congresswoman McCollum during their trip to Washington, D.C. The Linscheids are visiting their son Neil who is currently interning in Washington.

The Week Ahead

Tuesday, July 13th
Ribbon Cutting Ceremony for Congressional Arts Competition winner

needs to be done to boost the high-paying manufacturing sector. That is why I have joined my Democratic colleagues in sponsoring a broad plan to get America back to work, and to encourage U.S. companies to keep jobs in our country. The *American Jobs Plan* is a plan that will end the outsourcing of quality, good paying U.S. jobs and invest in the education, highways, and broadband Internet access that will bring more jobs to Minnesota .

To read more about the inadequate MEP bill and the American Jobs Plan, [click here](#).

Protecting the Mississippi River

Minnesotans want the Mississippi River to be clean and safe for fishing and recreation. Together, we need to work to protect and restore our great river. Congressman Ron Kind (WI-03) and I introduced the *Mississippi River Protection and Restoration Act of 2004* . This legislation will help the river return to its natural beauty by directing resources to restore and protect lost backwaters and islands.

To read more about the *Mississippi River Protection and Restoration Act* or for a copy of the bill, [click here](#).

Republican Leadership Undermines Democratic Process to Defeat Bipartisan Effort to Protect Civil Liberties

Yesterday, Republican leaders in the House of Representatives abused House rules to defeat a vote on an amendment offered by Congressman Bernard Sanders of Vermont that would restore civil liberties undermined by the controversial USA Patriot Act. The vote was held open for 38 minutes, well past the scheduled 15 minutes, in order to pressure nine of Republican Members to switch their votes. The vote total went from 219 to 201 in support of the amendment to 210 to 210, a tie vote resulting in the amendment's failure.

To read more about Republican abuse of power on the Sander's vote, [please click here](#).

Investing in Small Business

This week, I voted to invest an additional \$79 million in funding for the Small Business Administration loans. The SBA

Amanda Kohn from Inver Grove, Minnesota.

Wednesday, July 14th

Participate in a meeting with the National Council of the Arts.

Thursday, July 15th

Meeting with Katherine Kraft of Tartan High School in Maplewood. Katherine will be visiting Washington, D.C. with the Congressional Youth Leadership Council.

Two Iraqi women will shadow Rep. McCollum for the day to better understand the U.S. legislative process. These women are traveling to the United States to receive democracy training in preparation for the first free election in their country.

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7(a) loan is the most commonly used SBA loan, and backs billions in loans to small businesses each year. Despite Republican opposition, an amendment funding the loans passed by a vote of 281 to 137 . Over half of Minnesota employees work in one of our state's more than 130,000 small businesses. I am very proud to support the thousands of small businesses in my district which contribute nearly \$12 billion to the U.S. economy.

To read more about the SBA 7(a) loan program, [click here](#).



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