



Minnesota's 4th District E-Report!

Congresswoman Betty McCollum

"Serving Minnesota's Families"



March 26, 2004

Hot News!

Republican Congress Undermines Minnesota Priorities — GOP Passes Fiscally Irresponsible Budget

Yesterday, the Republican members of Congress narrowly passed the Budget Resolution for 2005 by a vote of 215 to 112. This budget ignores the challenges that average, hard working families in Minnesota are facing. Congresswoman Betty McCollum opposed the measure.

"The Republican budget is fiscally irresponsible. It creates deficits instead of jobs; and it shortchanges education, health care, veterans' benefits, and small business," said McCollum. "As Minnesotans struggle to achieve financial security, the GOP budget will rob Social Security and Medicare to pay for tax cuts for the wealthy."

- **Republican budget does nothing to create jobs.** Despite 3 million private sector jobs lost since the beginning of the Bush Administration, the GOP budget does nothing to create jobs and it does not end incentives for companies to ship jobs overseas. It underfunds the Small Business Administration, and does not extend unemployment insurance for 4.6 million unemployed Americans.
- **Republican budget spends every penny of the \$1 trillion Social Security surplus over the next 5 years.**
- **House GOP budget cuts \$358 million from health services in 2005. It also cuts Medicaid and SCHIP by \$2.2 billion over the next five years.**
- **The Republican budget is almost \$9 billion short of the promised funding under No Child Left Behind.**
- **Cuts \$1.6 billion from environmental protection in 2005, and cuts \$6.4 billion over five years.**
- **The Republican budget fails to provide needed funding for veterans health care.**

"We need to help all Americans achieve financial security by investing in job creation, improving education, reducing health care costs, making college affordable, helping small businesses grow, and supporting our veterans and military retirees. Minnesota families deserve a budget that reflects their priorities."

McCollum Greets Minnesota Students in Washington



Students from St. Thomas Academy in Mendota Heights speaks with Congresswoman McCollum on her work as a member of the International Relations Committee.

The Week Ahead

March 30 — Commissioner Major General Larry W. Shellito of the Minnesota Department of Military Affairs will visit with Rep. McCollum to discuss the National Guard priorities.

March 30 — Rep. McCollum speaks to the Minnesota State Building and Construction Trades Council.

April 1 — International Relations Committee Hearing on Al Qaeda and Terrorism.

April 1 — Mr. Howard Wolpe, Director of the Africa Program at the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars will discuss a new African program initiative with Rep. McCollum.

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

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