



Minnesota's 4th District E-Report!

Congresswoman Betty McCollum

"Serving Minnesota's Families"



March 12, 2004

Hot News!

"No Child Left Behind Act Must Be Fixed" McCollum Addresses Ohio Education Field Hearing

This week, Congresswoman Betty McCollum brought a Minnesota perspective to an Ohio House Committee on Education and the Workforce field hearing. The hearing addressed the shortcomings of the No Child Left Behind Act. Her excerpted statement follows:

"My support is unwavering for the educators, administrators, school board members and parents across this country – those who commit themselves to educate and improve the future for America's children.

Our nation's democracy, prosperity and success are built upon a foundation of public schools and every American's ability to access a quality public education.

No one should tolerate the attacks on our public education or the public school teachers we trust to educate and nurture our children every day.

Many states, including Ohio and Minnesota have voiced valid, legitimate concerns about this law that need to be addressed by the Department of Education in open, public forums, not behind closed doors or with offensive name-calling.

The point is clear – *No Child Left Behind* must be fixed."

Several grassroots organizations have begun a petition calling for Education Secretary Rod Paige to resign after branding the National Education Association (NEA) a "terrorist organization." The petition can be accessed at www.firepage.org

White House Pick for Manufacturing Czar is Outsourcing Star

Six months after announcing creation of the position of Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Manufacturing this week, President Bush named his choice for the position, Anthony Raimondo, CEO of Behlen Manufacturing. The following day, Mr. Raimondo removed his name from the nomination after reports indicated that he laid-off 75 workers in Nebraska, and was opening a factory in China.

"Sadly the manufacturing czar is really an outsourcing star," said McCollum. "America's workers need real jobs, not phony symbolism. Unfortunately, Republicans have used their power to provide tax breaks and special deals for corporate interests while thousands of good paying manufacturing jobs were shipped overseas."

McCollum Meets with American Legion



Mr. Roger Ball, Ms. Robin Picray, Ms. Patti Paulson, Mr. Marland Ronning, and Mr. Chris Ronning of the American Legion visits with Congresswoman Betty McCollum to discuss the Veterans Administration budget, Medicare and the Budget resolution for Fiscal Year 2005.

The Week Ahead

March 16 — *The Minnesota Department of Public Safety will meet with Rep. McCollum to discuss public safety issues.*

March 17 — *"Students Today - Leaders Forever" is a group of University of Minnesota students who work with the YMCA on community service projects. They will visit with Rep. McCollum.*

March 17 — *Rep. McCollum will address the Public Leadership Education Network (PLEN), a national consortium of women's colleges—during a Congressional Mock Hearing*

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

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