



Minnesota's 4th District E-Report!

Congresswoman Betty McCollum

"Serving Minnesota's Families"



March 5, 2004

Hot News!

Economy Creates an Anemic 21,000 Jobs in Feb.; Job Creation Falls 85% Short of White House's 320,000 Monthly Forecast

Congresswoman Betty McCollum today called the 21,000 new jobs created in February "an anemic response to the tax cut and spending policies of President Bush and the Republican Congress."

Wells Fargo's chief economist, Mr. Sung Won Sohn commenting for CNN on the 21,000 jobs created said, "This is a terrible number. The economic recovery is almost three years old, and the economy should be producing 200,000 to 300,000 jobs per month."

Critical of the Bush job creation policy of massive tax cuts for the wealthiest Americans that have resulted in record setting federal budget deficits, McCollum called on President Bush to get back to work in the White House. **"This country is at war and millions of Americans need jobs, but our president appears more concerned about saving his own job than he is about the middle class families being squeezed by this job-loss recovery."**

Bush Economic Record

- 43rd consecutive month of lost manufacturing jobs
- Slowest pace of wage growth for workers in 18 years
- Longest average unemployment duration in 20 years
- 2.35 million lost jobs since March 2001 – month recession began
- 700,000 lost jobs since November 2001 – month recession ended
- 8.2 million unemployed Americans
- 20.3 weeks – average length of unemployment, highest since 1984

McCollum Wishes St. Paul a Happy 150th Birthday

Yesterday on the floor of the House of Representatives, Congresswoman Betty McCollum wished a happy 150th birthday to the city of St. Paul, Minnesota.

"For 150 years, St. Paul's special character has been shaped by the peoples and cultures of the world," said Rep. McCollum. "For our first one-hundred years, Native Americans, Europeans and African Americans settled and built St. Paul. More recently, new immigrants from Asia, Latin America and Africa continue to transform and strengthen St. Paul."

100% Voting Record Wins Praise from National Catholic Social Justice Organization



NETWORK, a National Catholic Social Justice Lobby commends Congresswoman Betty McCollum for her strong voting record on behalf of social and economic justice. Rep. McCollum is awarded by Sister Mary Elizabeth Clark and Bridget Purdue for receiving a 100% voting record for supporting efforts for peace and diplomacy, campaign finance reform, and a fair and just tax policy.

The Week Ahead

March 8 — Rep. McCollum will participate in an Education and the Workforce Committee field hearing in Columbus, Ohio on elementary and secondary education.

March 9 — City officials from the Minnesota League of Cities will visit with Rep. McCollum.

March 10 — A representative from the International Women's Democracy Center will "shadow" Rep. McCollum for the day.

March 10 — Rep. McCollum will discuss Minnesota's housing goals and priorities with Commissioner Tim Marx of the Minnesota Housing Finance Agency.

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

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