



Minnesota's 4th District **E-Report!**

Congresswoman Betty McCollum

"Serving Minnesota's Families"



FEBRUARY 28, 2003

Hot News!

McCollum Introduces Trails Bill, Keeps Seat on Resources

McCollum re-introduced the Mississippi River Trail Study Act. The legislation would amend the National Trails System Act to designate the route of the Mississippi River from its headwaters in Minnesota to the Gulf of Mexico for study for potential addition to the National Trails System.

Rep. Betty McCollum was approached by Democratic leaders who encouraged her to remain on the House Resources Committee that oversees national parks, public lands and environmental issues. Party leaders have allowed McCollum to serve on 3 committees; Education and the Workforce, International Relations and Resources.

McCollum to Boost Peace Corps Enrollment

Rep. Betty McCollum called on President Bush to honor his pledge to double the number of Peace Corps volunteers. McCollum introduced legislation that would provide the funding necessary to double volunteers serving around the globe.

McCollum's legislation would increase the program's enrollment from 6,678 in 2002 to 14,000 by 2007, and the program's funding would increase from \$275 million in 2002 to \$550 million by 2007. The funding would provide quality recruitment and ensure adequate health care and security for the volunteers.

"The President's budget only increased Peace Corps funding by 8% in 2003. If he is serious about doubling enrollment, the necessary funding must follow," said Rep. McCollum. "Peace Corps Volunteers have made significant and lasting contributions around the world in agriculture, business development, education, health, and the environment, and have improved the lives of individuals and communities around the world."

"Pic" of the Week



Rep. McCollum met with Sgt. Mat Hodapp of the Minnesota State Patrol Troopers Association to discuss the Safe Highways and Infrastructure Preservation Act. Rep. McCollum is a cosponsor of this legislation to close a variety of loopholes that allow motor carriers to skirt existing weight limits, freeze truck limits on the National Highway System and provide the states with a model schedule of fines designed to more effectively discourage overweight violations.

Upcoming Events

March 3 - Meeting with Reservist Family Members

March 5 - Meeting with Minnesota Paralyzed Veterans

March 6 - Lunch with Delegation of senior officials from the Norwegian National Defense College

March 6 - Minnesota Child Care Resource and Referral Network

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