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Washington, DC – Congresswoman Betty McCollum (MN-04) issued the following statement on the passing of former Congresswoman and vice presidential candidate Geraldine Ferraro.

"Selected by Minnesota's own Vice President Walter Mondale, Geraldine Ferraro's nomination for Vice President represented a pivotal moment in American politics. No longer is the race for president for men only as evidenced by the 2008 presidential election.

"Congresswoman Ferraro's vice presidential nomination paved the way for other women to become prominent leaders in American politics, including members of the President's Cabinet and judges on the Supreme Court. This list includes former Secretary of State Madeline Albright; Secretary of State Hillary Clinton; former Attorney General Janet Reno; Supreme Court Justices Ruth Bader Ginsburg, Elena Kagan, and Sonia Sotomayor; and former Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi.

"Congresswoman Ferraro's historic nomination has and will continue to inspire many more women to step up and lend their valuable voices to the political process. My thoughts and prayers are with her family."

Congresswoman Betty McCollum serves on the House Appropriations and Budget Committees.

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