

McCollum Backs 'American Jobs Plan'

As Minnesota's May unemployment rate rose to 4.3 percent from 4.2 percent in April, I joined other Members of Congress in announcing a broad plan to get America back to work, and to encourage U.S. companies to keep jobs in America. The American Jobs Plan is a comprehensive plan to end the outsourcing of quality, good paying U.S. jobs and invest in the education, highways and broadband Internet access that will bring more jobs to Minnesota.

The American Jobs Plan would end tax loopholes that reward companies for moving jobs overseas, encourage small firms to expand and hire new workers, and help more children attend college to study science and math.

No Minnesotan and no American should have to pay one dime in taxes to help big corporations receive billion dollar tax breaks to export

U.S. jobs to other countries. Democrats have a plan to invest in American jobs, American factories, American schools and American workers.



Betty McCollum
U.S. Rep., District 4

The American Jobs Plan would repeal \$125 billion in current tax breaks that help ship jobs overseas, replacing them instead with two new tax incentives targeted to companies, both large and small, that create new jobs in the United States. Under the new jobs plan, savings from ending tax loopholes would be invested in job training, education, and research and development. The plan, which is fully paid for, also gives U.S. companies priority for obtaining government contracts if they keep jobs in America.

About 2.7 million manufacturing jobs have been lost around the country in the

last three years, and eight million Americans are looking for work. It is time for a new commitment to keep jobs here in the U.S.

Several of the key proposals in the American Jobs Plan agenda include:

- A new jobs tax credit to give American manufacturers, small businesses and other industries impacted by outsourcing \$3,000 for every job they create in the next two years.
- A new small business tax credit to help make health care more affordable for smaller firms so they can expand.
- A highway bill to create hundreds of thousands of jobs by modernizing and rebuilding highways, airports, railroad lines, ports and water treatment facilities.
- Giving priority for government contracts to companies investing in American jobs.
- Expanding investment in broadband infrastructure to

make using the Internet more cost effective for families and small businesses in rural areas, and connect industrial parks and small business incubators with high-speed links.

- Making college more accessible by doubling Pell Grants for low and moderate income students to \$11,600 by 2011.
- Increased funding for job training and new programs to ensure that workers are trained for industries with an unmet demand for high-skilled talent.
- Extending unemployment benefits to the 2.9 million people who have exhausted their current benefits but still have not found work.
- Expanding assistance to high-tech workers and other workers who lose their jobs due to off-shoring, which would allow them greater access to job training, health benefits, and funding for job search and relocation expenses.