

**Congresswoman Betty McCollum - Minnesota's 4th District**[Website](#) | [Contact Betty](#) | [About Betty](#) | [4th District](#) | [Constituent Services](#) | [Newsroom](#) | [In Congress](#)

Dear Friend,

Saturday marks the anniversary of the September 11th terrorist attacks. As we honor the memory of those who lost their lives that day, we owe it to the families of the victims of 9/11 to do everything we can to prevent this type of attack from happening again. That is why I am cosponsoring legislation that would implement the recommendations of the bipartisan 9/11 Commission. [To view the legislation, click here.](#)

To keep America strong, our families need personal and economic security. That is why this week, I joined with House Democrats in fighting and winning a critical vote on overtime protections for American workers. You can read more about the overtime battle by [clicking here](#). You will also find information on the [Assault Weapons Ban](#) that will expire on Monday. My colleagues and I have demanded that President Bush and Republican leaders in Congress renew and strengthen the assault weapons ban. Unfortunately, these leaders have refused to allow the 136 bipartisan members a vote on the ban.

Seniors and the disabled already are facing spiraling prescription drug costs learned this week that the Bush administration is raising their Medicare premiums more than 17 percent - a record increase. [Read more by clicking here.](#)

If you have not signed up for my e-newsletter, please [click here to stay updated](#). Please visit [my website](#) for the latest information on the work I do on behalf of Minnesota families. I look forward to

Sibley Students Discuss 9/11 Anniversary With McCollum

9th graders at Sibley High School in West St. Paul talked with Congresswoman McCollum about the third anniversary of the September 11th terrorist attacks and how the war in Iraq affects efforts to keep communities strong at home and around the world.

The Week Ahead

Tuesday, September 14th
Minnesota Air Force Association ceremony in support of our troops serving throughout the world

International Relations Committee

hearing from you.

Sincerely,



Congresswoman Betty McCollum
Serving Minnesota's Fourth District

Hearing on U.S.-European
Cooperation on Counterterrorism

Thursday, September 16th
Student Town Hall at Highland Park
High School

Open House at American Indian
Magnet School in St. Paul

News Alert:

House Democrats Win Overtime Battle for Minnesota Workers

This week, I stood with the workers and families in the Fourth District, voting to protect the overtime rights of millions of American workers. This amendment, which passed 223 to 193, halts the implementation of the Administration's new regulation that strips overtime rights and pay from 6 million workers.

[Read more about the vote on Overtime Regulations.](#)

Congress Must Extend the Ban on Military Style Assault Weapons

Congress has adjourned this week without extending the ban on military style assault weapons. This critical protection is scheduled to expire on Monday. Soon, weapons of terror, like the AK-47, will be legal in America. However, President Bush and the Republican leadership will not allow the 136 bipartisan supporters of the ban a vote on the House floor.

[Read more about the Assault Weapons Ban.](#)

[Read more about Rep. McCollum's hearing on the Assault Weapons Ban.](#)

Medicare Premiums Rise By 17.5%

The rising cost of health care is squeezing millions of seniors across the country who rely on access to good care to preserve their quality of life.

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Prescription drug costs continue to rise, and the new Medicare law signed by President Bush prohibits the government from negotiating the lowest prices. Making matters worse, millions of retirees are likely to lose their employer benefits as a result of the new law, and last week **the Bush Administration announced that Medicare premiums will be increasing by 17.5%. This increase is the largest dollar spike in the history of the program.** More than 15% of this increase is a direct result of the Bush Administration's push to privatize Medicare.

[Read more about the Medicare Premiums.](#)

Contact Information

website: <http://www.mccollum.house.gov/>

Washington Office
1029 Longworth HOB
Washington, DC 20515
(202) 225-6631
(202) 225-1968 fax

St. Paul Office
165 Western Ave North Suite 17
St. Paul, MN 55102
(651) 224-9191
(651) 224-3056 fax



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