

A photograph of Congresswoman Betty McCollum, a woman with dark hair pulled back, wearing a light-colored jacket, smiling and looking slightly to the right. The background is a blurred image of the Minnesota State Capitol building. The text "CONGRESSWOMAN Betty McCollum MINNESOTA'S 4th DISTRICT" is overlaid on the right side of the image in yellow and white.

CONGRESSWOMAN
Betty McCollum
MINNESOTA'S 4th DISTRICT

April 21, 2006

Dear Friends:

April 22nd is Earth Day, and gas prices rising to \$3 per gallon is putting the need for a new American energy policy in full focus. A clean energy future that addresses climate change and our costly oil dependence is achievable. Unfortunately, the current U.S. energy policy lacks urgency on this vital issue.

President Bush admitted in his January State of the Union address that "America is addicted to oil." Yet the president's 2007 federal budget proposes feeding the addiction by handing out a package of tax breaks and royalty-free drilling rights to the oil industry that, according to the nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office, would cost taxpayers at least \$20 billion. Read more about [Investing in a Clean Energy Future](#).

Earlier this week, I joined my House Democratic colleagues in introducing the *Reverse the Raid on Student Aid Act*, legislation that would cut interest rates in half on college loans for student borrowers with the most financial need. In addition, to give college students and parents the opportunity to communicate directly with Congress on the effects of rising costs of college tuition and mounting student loan debt, I am participating in a national online forum. Read my full statement on the [Reverse the Raid on Student Aid Act](#). Learn how you can [submit a testimony to the E-Forum](#) about the challenges of financing higher education.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Betty".

Congresswoman Betty McCollum
Serving Minnesota's Fourth Congressional District

Sign up for my E-Newsletter by visiting: <http://mccollum.house.gov/e-news>.

[Privacy Policy](#) - [Unsubscribe](#)