



Minnesota's 4th District E-Report!

Congresswoman Betty McCollum

"Serving Minnesota's Families"



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Hot News!

McCollum Fights to Fund Hometown Security

Congress recently debated a \$77.9 billion supplemental bill to fund the War in Iraq and homeland security requirements. In a party line vote, House Republicans blocked efforts supported by Rep. McCollum to provide an additional \$2.5 billion in funding for police officers, firefighters and local governments for protecting communities.

The Pawlenty Administration made a last minute plea for additional funds to secure Minnesota cities in light of the war with Iraq. "Protecting our home towns should not be a partisan issue. I fought hard to fulfill this request. Unfortunately, the Republican Party in Congress said 'NO' to Minnesota and this needed funding," said Rep. McCollum.

"The message from community leaders and first responders is clear: 'we need help, and we need it now,'" said McCollum. "Our troops in Iraq need every resource we can give to protect them and our nation, and we also need to support those on the front lines here at home. The war with Iraq has only increased the strain on local governments in the 4th District as they have been forced to fund anti-terrorism expenses with local levy dollars.

According to a report by the U.S. Conference of Mayors, cities across the country are being forced to pay more than \$21.4 million per week in additional security costs or close to \$2 billion over the next 6 months during the increased security alert status brought on by the war in Iraq.

McCollum Fights for HIV Funding

A landmark \$15 billion bill to fight HIV/AIDS in Africa and the Caribbean passed out of the International Relations Committee this week with the strong support of Rep. Betty McCollum. The bill included an amendment offered by McCollum to protect vital HIV drugs from counterfeiting and black-market sales, as well as monitor dangerous drug resistant strains of HIV. The bill also provides funds for comprehensive HIV prevention strategies and for children orphaned by AIDS.



Michael Mayer, Vice Chair of Minnesota's Juvenile Justice Advisory Committee presented Rep. Betty McCollum with an award honoring her for working to ensure the fair and compassionate treatment of all youth. Minnesota has been a leader in juvenile justice programs, but because of budget deficits in the federal government and Minnesota these programs face significant cuts.

Postal Service Studies Relocation of St. Paul's Riverfront Mail Facility to Army Site in Arden Hills

In a letter to Congresswoman Betty McCollum, the U.S. Postal Service announced it has commenced an operational analysis of the Twin Cities Army Ammunition Plant in Arden Hills. The feasibility of relocating the 12-acre riverfront St. Paul Processing and Distribution Center to Arden Hills will be examined.

"This study is a first step to creating a win-win-win-win situation for the Twin Cities. If all the right pieces come together this will create a once in a lifetime opportunity to transform vital East Metro infrastructure to meet our future needs," McCollum said.

Contact Congresswoman Betty McCollum . . . www.house.gov/mccollum/contact.html

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