

Office of U.S. Senator Amy Klobuchar

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MEDIA ADVISORY

Sen. Klobuchar to Visit NW Minnesota as Part of Her “Main Street Tour” Through Minnesota

Focus on Economic Challenges and Opportunities

MINNEAPOLIS (January 11, 2008) – As she begins her second year in the U.S. Senate, Amy Klobuchar will be traveling to northwestern Minnesota as part of her 2008 Main Street Tour of local communities throughout Minnesota.

“I visited every one of Minnesota’s 87 counties during 2007, and I look forward to doing it again in 2008,” said Klobuchar.

Next week, Klobuchar will be visiting Moorhead, Bemidji, Crookston, Thief River Falls, Ada, Baudette, Hallock, Mahnomon, Red Lake Falls, Warren, Warroad and Itasca State Park. [SEE ITINERARY BELOW]

Already this month, Klobuchar has visited communities ranging from Pipestone, Worthington and Marshall in the south to Duluth, Ely and International Falls in the north.

Klobuchar said her Main Street Tour in northwestern Minnesota will include a summit meeting on veterans issues in Moorhead, a visit to Marvin Windows in Warroad, a meeting with the Northwest Regional Development Commission in Warren and a discussion on rural health care in Crookston.

She will also provide updates on the new Farm Bill and meet informally with area residents at local cafes.

In addition, Klobuchar is the keynote speaker on January 15 at the 19th annual “Marketplace for Entrepreneurs” economic development conference in Grand Forks. It is the largest, longest-running economic development forum focusing on the Great Plains region.

Klobuchar noted that the economic challenges and opportunities facing Minnesotans are a particular focus of her Main Street Tour.

“Rising costs for health care, energy and other essentials are putting a tremendous strain on businesses and families,” said Klobuchar.

(more)

For example, she pointed out that:

- Between 2000 and 2006, health insurance premiums have gone up 87 percent, more than four times the growth in wages.
- Gas prices remain at about \$3 per gallon, double what they were in 2000, with the U.S. Department of Energy forecasting \$3.40 per gallon by the spring.
- The average household is expected to pay 11 percent more for heating this winter compared to last year. Families who rely on home heating oil are facing record prices 30 percent or more above last winter.

“Too many hard-working, middle-class families are struggling with economic insecurity, while too many businesses are being squeezed on the bottom line,” said Klobuchar.

“Washington needs to respond to these realities with policies that strengthen the opportunities for economic growth and shared prosperity.”

In the Senate, Klobuchar serves on the Agriculture, Commerce and Environment committees. She also serves on the Congressional Joint Economic Committee, which is responsible for researching current economic conditions and recommending policy reforms to strengthen economic prosperity.

SENATOR KLOBUCHAR’S ITINERARY

January 15 – 17, 2008

Tuesday, January 15

7:40 – 8:30 AM

Meeting with health care providers on rural health care issues
Minnesota Rural Health Care Association
Bede Ballroom A, Student Center
2900 University Avenue
University of Minnesota,
Crookston

9:15 – 10:00 AM

Meeting and update on the Farm Bill
Minnesota Barley Growers Meeting
2601 Wheat Drive
Red Lake Falls

Noon – 1:00 PM

Keynote speech at the 19th Annual “Marketplace for Entrepreneurs” Forum
Alerus Center
1200 42nd Street South
Grand Forks

1:00 – 1:30 PM

Media availability at the 19th Annual “Marketplace for Entrepreneurs” Forum
Alerus Center
1200 42nd Street South
Grand Forks

2:25 – 3:10 PM

Meeting on economic development issues
Northwest Regional Development Commission
115 South Main
Warren

4:05 – 4:50

Meeting on education and job opportunities for veterans
Northland Community & Technical College
1101 Highway One East
Thief River Falls

6:35 – 7:20 PM

Informal meeting and Farm Bill update with area residents.
Caribou Grill
225 E Broadway
Hallock

Wednesday, Jan 16

8:00 – 9:00 AM

Meeting at Marvin Windows
802 State Avenue NE
Warroad

9:00 – 9:15 AM

Media availability in Warroad
802 State Avenue NE
Warroad

10:20 – 11:05 AM

Tour of U.S.-Canada Border Crossing
Port of Entry
Baudette

1:30 – 2:15 PM

Meeting about federal support for university programs
Bridgeman Hall, Room 100
1500 Birchmont Drive NE
Bemidji State University
Bemidji

3:00 – 3:45 PM

Tour and informal meeting with area residents
Jacob V. Brower Visitors Center
Itasca State Park
36750 Main Park Drive
Park Rapids

4:45 – 5:30 PM

Informal meeting and Farm Bill update with area residents
Red Apple Cafe
116 N Main St
Mahnomen

6:30 – 7:30 PM

Informal meeting and Farm Bill update with area residents
Wild Rice Dining Emporium
14 West Thorpe Avenue
Ada

Thursday, Jan 17

10:00 – 11:00 AM

Summit meeting on veterans issues
Commissioners Board Room, 3rd floor
Moorhead Courthouse
807 11th Street North
Moorhead

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