

For Immediate Release  
Date: September 10, 2009

Contact: WV Federation of Democratic Women's President Belinda Biafore

**Congresswoman Sutton to Speak in Weirton**  
**Governor Joe Manchin and Others to Address Federation of Democratic Women's Annual Meeting**

Charleston, W.Va. – The West Virginia Federation of Democratic Women (WVFDW) President Belinda Biafore today announced the guest speakers for their upcoming annual meeting, including Congresswoman Betty Sutton (D-Ohio) as the keynote speaker on Saturday, Sept. 19, 2009. More than 200 Democratic Women from across West Virginia will gather at the Weirton Holiday Inn from September 18-20. Governor Joe Manchin, Congressman Alan Mollohan, his wife Barbara, Secretary of State Natalie Tennant, State Treasurer John Perdue, House of Delegates Speaker Rick Thompson, and State Senator Jeff Kessler are all also expected to address the crowd during the weekend festivities.

“Each year, the state Federation of Democratic Women hold an annual meeting and we are very excited about coming to Weirton,” Biafore said. “We are looking forward to listening to Congresswoman Betty Sutton, and from many of our state officials.”

This is the 45<sup>th</sup> anniversary for the WVFDW and their meeting's theme is “Tough Times, Tough Women.” The WVFDW consists of 40 local clubs with more than 3,000 members, with several new clubs just formed this year.

“We look forward to many new members who be joining us for the first time,” Biafore said. “We'll have workshops and training sessions that will help get them more involved in the political process, while also allowing us to continue to grow our state Democratic Party.”

Congresswoman Sutton represents Ohio's 13<sup>th</sup> District, located in Northeast Ohio, and is serving her second term. She was the key author of the popular “Cash for Clunkers” program and serves on the House Energy and Commerce Committee. Rep. Sutton was born and raised in Barberton, Ohio, as the youngest of six children. Her mother was clerk-treasurer for the city library, and her father worked in the local boiler-maker factory. Betty attended public schools and graduated from Kent State University, where she studied political science and then enrolled at the University of Akron where she earned her law degree. Congresswoman Sutton lives with her husband Doug and their dog, Cody.

The conference begins 2 p.m. Friday, Sept. 18 with the opening session. The guest speakers are scheduled as follows:

Sec. of State Tennant, Treasurer Perdue, Speaker Thompson & Senator Kessler; 2 p.m.

Friday

Gov. Manchin; 3 p.m. Friday

Barbara Mollohan; 1 p.m. Saturday

Congresswoman Sutton and Congressman Mollohan; 6:30 p.m. Saturday

All events take place at the Weirton Holiday Inn which is located at 350 Three Springs Drive in Weirton, WV.

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