

---

*(Positively Minnesota Video – 8:06 minutes)*

- Thank you for asking me to share my views on Minnesota's place on the international scene. You and I share a mutual interest in international issues. It's a pleasure to be among friends AND neighbors. *(Residence is just down the street!)*

- I'm here to share with you why I think Minnesota, as just one state in the United States, should care about international issues:

Because, if we're to succeed and prosper in the world economy, we have to start looking at ourselves as *a country within a country.*

- We have to look at our strengths and our opportunities in the world arena. We have to stand up there nose-to-nose with the best in the world by showcasing what Minnesota has to offer.

*Example: China market, planned trade mission:*

*Medtronic's products at Mexico City General Hospital*

- Economic globalization demands that we think and act differently. We can't shut our borders. We can't seal out the world, and hide inside. If we don't prepare, we will be left behind.

*Example: Cuba*