April 6, 2017 – 1:00 p.m.

Olympia Indivisible Delegation visit with
Phil Gardner, District Director for Congressman Denny Heck
and Dallas Roberts, District Representative
Thurston and Mason CO office 420 College St SE Ste 3000

Notes taken by

O.I. members attending: Melinda Holman, Glen Hubbard, Mark Tips,
Suska Davis and Lucy Winter

1. **Introductions**

2. **Thank you** for cosponsoring **HR 1518**, the Maritime Washington National Heritage Area Act which would establish a maritime national heritage area in the state of Washington. Sponsored by Rep Derek Kilmer.

3. **Thank you** for cosponsoring **HR 1675**, the National Landslide Preparedness Act. This would establish a national program to identify and reduce losses from landslide hazards. (Inspired by the Oso landslide?) Sponsored by Rep Suzen DelBene

4. **Thank you** for successfully pressuring Chairman Nunes to step aside from heading the House Intelligence Committee investigation of Russian interference in our election. We do not need a Congressman under an ethics cloud in charge of the investigation.
5. **Thank you** once again for cosponsoring **HR 356**, the Protecting Our Democracy Act which would create a bipartisan, independent commission to investigate the allegations of Russian interference. We have thanked Congressman Heck for this in the past (March 8th), but it continues to be important to maintain vigilance on this issue, so we are appreciative for the congressman’s ongoing efforts.

6. **Thank you** for voting against **HJRes 86**. This will allow corporations like Comcast to sell browsing information and other sensitive information to the highest bidder without permission. In a party-line vote, House Republicans freed internet service providers of protections approved last year that sought to limit what firms could do with information such as customer browsing habits, app usage history, location data and Social Security numbers.

   This joint resolution nullifies the rule submitted by the Federal Communications Commission entitled "Protecting the Privacy of Customers of Broadband and Other Telecommunications Services." The rule published on December 2, 2016: (1) applies the customer privacy requirements of the Communications Act of 1934 to broadband Internet access service and other telecommunications services, (2) requires telecommunications carriers to inform customers about rights to opt in or opt out of the use or the sharing of their confidential information, (3) adopts data security and breach notification requirements, (4) prohibits broadband service offerings that are contingent on surrendering privacy rights, and (5) requires disclosures and affirmative consent when a broadband provider offers customers financial incentives in exchange for the provider’s right to use a customer's confidential information.

   Is there any hope for reinstituting consumer protections? What is the status of this issue?

7. **Update** on if Congressman Heck plans to support **HR 496**, the BRIDGE Act allowing people who qualify for DACA (the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program) to stay in the country for three years while their cases are pending. This will protect immigrant children from immediate deportation. Cosponsored by Washington Reps Jayapal, Newhouse and Reichert.
8. **Ask:** Please vote against **HR 1387**, the SOAR Reauthorization Act, which would direct federal tax dollars to pay for vouchers to private schools. Every one of our tax dollars that goes to support this program does not go the surrounding public schools that are struggling to meet the needs of their students.

9. **Ask:** Please remain vigilant in protecting the ACA, and work to expand the ACA insurance markets. The HHS.gov website contains propaganda about the ACA. Directly from the HHS website:

   A functioning, competitive market for health insurance is a crucial element of providing patients access to quality, affordable care. But with skyrocketing premiums and narrowing choices, the Affordable Care Act (ACA) has done damage to this market and created great burdens for many Americans.

   The Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) is committed to doing everything in our power to provide relief immediately. Within what the law allows, HHS is taking action to stabilize the individual and small group insurance markets (the markets most affected by the ACA) so that they work better for everyone.

   Secretary Price is looking for ways to sabotage the ACA such as by not enforing the health laws requiring coverage.
10. **Ask:** Work to oppose any funding for the border wall.

- There is no proof that the wall will achieve the desired outcome.
- The cost of the wall is too great in relation to the critical social programs that would be severely reduced or eliminated.
- A February estimate by the Department of Homeland Security put the cost at $21.6 Billion. The Trump administration has asked for an initial payment of $3 billion in the current budget.
- Part of this cost will be paid gutting such programs as medical research, infrastructure projects and block grants to US communities.
- The environmental costs of building a wall such as this are extreme. Among other issues, the movement of animals would be adversely effected by destroying and fragmenting habitat.

11. **Ask:** Support **HR 837** the Build Bridges not Walls Act which would prohibit the implementation of President Trump’s executive order to build a wall along the U.S.-Mexico border. Sponsored by Rep Michelle Lujan Grisham (D-NM-1) and cosponsored by Rep Adam Smith.

12. Final thank you for having the two town halls on the 11th and 18th, and especially for coming to our meeting on the 19th.

Schedule next meeting. Picture.