July 27, 2017 – 1 PM

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

O.I. members attending: Kathleen O'Shaunessy, Ann Chaudhry,
Zahid Chaudhry, Jo’el Roth, Lynne Geller, Linda Wilson and Lucy Winter

Introductions:

1. **Thank you** again for being one of the original cosponsors of **HR 1503** the Statue of Liberty Values Act (SOLVE Act) which defunds Trump’s Muslim ban. Although the fight over the Muslim ban has focused on the actions of the executive and judicial branches, Congress is not powerless and could nullify Trump’s orders by passing H.R. 1503.

2. **Thank you** for supporting our veterans by cosponsoring **HR 3218**, the Post-9/11 GI Bill titled the Harry W. Colmery Veterans Educational Assistance Act of 2017, named to honor a former American Legion commander who is credited with drafting the World War II-era GI Bill. Benefits include:

   - Up to 100% Tuition and Fee Coverage
   - A Monthly Housing Allowance
   - Up to $1000 a year for Books and Supplies
   - A One-Time Relocation Allowance
   - The Option to Transfer Benefits to Family Members
   - The Yellow Ribbon Program

3. **Thank you** for voting **yes** for **H.R.3364** the Countering America’s Adversaries Through Sanctions Act. This will curb Trump’s ability to remove or soften sanctions on Russia. This passed 419-3. The legislation now moves to the Senate, but it’s unclear when the Senate will vote on the measure, which includes new sanctions against Russia, Iran and North Korea. Senate Foreign Relations Committee chairman Bob Corker indicated Monday he may want to make some tweaks to the bill, which was negotiated between the House and Senate after the initial version he drafted sailed through the Senate on a 98-2 vote.
4. Thank you for voting no earlier this week on H.J.Res. 111 regarding Arbitration Agreements. The Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB) just restored our ability take collective legal action against big corporate players like Wells Fargo when they break the law. But Trump’s friends in the House voted to repeal this important new rule on Tuesday.

5. Thank you for sponsoring HR 3129 Aiding Development of Vital Assets in Native Communities and Environments Act of 2017 or the ADVANCE Act. This would direct the Community Development Financial Institutions Fund to perform an outreach program for the new markets tax credit in low-income communities with a disproportionately low amount of low-income community investments by community development entities.

This bill amends the Riegle Community Development and Regulatory Improvement Act of 1994 to require the Community Development Financial Institutions (CDFI) Fund to provide outreach and training with respect to the New Markets Tax Credit (NMTC) in low-income communities with a disproportionately low amount of low-income community investments by community development entities.

(The NMTC is a non-refundable tax credit intended to encourage private capital investment in low-income communities. NMTCs are allocated by the CDFI Fund, a bureau of the Department of the Treasury, using a competitive application process.)

The CFDI Fund must also: (1) include in the application for the NMTC questions to determine and consider, as an innovative use or a comparable incentive in evaluating applications, the extent to which the applicant intends to make low-income community investments within Indian country; and (2) to the maximum extent practicable, ensure that at least one community development entity whose primary mission is to fund projects within or that directly benefit Indian country receives an allocation for each allocation round.

6. Thank you for speaking out concerning the president’s ability to issue a blanket pardon in secret to everyone involved in Russia's interference with the US election. Federal law does not require that pardons be made public. Also for stating that the Trump campaign's involvement with Russia has now gone "far past collusion," and calling on the Trump administration to come clean.

Secret blanket pardons Trump Russian collusion
7. **Thank you** for voting **no** on **HR 806** the Ozone Standards Implementation Act of 2017. This guts the ozone standards of the Clean Air Act by extending deadlines and providing governors with the ability to ignore the act's intent for their state's residents. This legislation would systematically weaken the Clean Air Act without a single improvement, undermine Americans’ 46-year right to healthy air based on medical science, and delay life-saving health standards already years overdue.

   This legislation would delay for ten years the right to safer air quality, and even the simple right to know if the air is safe to breathe. Corporations applying for air pollution permits would be free to ignore new ground-level ozone (aka smog) health standards during these additional ten years. For the first time, the largest sources of air pollution would be allowed to exceed health standards. The bill would also outright excuse the parts of the country suffering the worst smog pollution from having backup plans if they do not reduce pollution. The most polluted parts of the country should not stop doing everything they can to protect their citizens’ health and environment by cleaning up smog pollution.

8. **Ask** Oppose the outrageous and discriminatory policy reversal from Trump regarding the service of Transgender individuals in the military.

   The annual military budget:
   Transition related medical care: $8.4 Million
   Viagra: $41.6 Million
   Cialis: $22.8 Million

9. **Ask**. Continue your support of the ACA.

10. **Ask**: We support the Department of Interior’s work on climate change and collaborative landscape conservation programs. The president’s budget completely gutted these popular and important programs. The House Interior Appropriations Committee approved a budget last week that contains adequate funding. We ask that Rep. Heck urge his colleagues on the budget committees to continue funding at the FY 17 levels. Additionally, if we are in a continuing resolution scenario after September 30, the CR language needs to be very explicit that these programs should continue. Given that the administration will find many ways to avoid this work, Congress needs to be explicit.
11. Ask: Do not vote to support Trump’s mass deportation goals in the FY18 budget. Trump is asking Congress to pour at least $23 billion of our tax dollars into the border wall, detention facilities and staff that make up his deportation machine. In Trump’s budget, he cuts vital investments in families and communities to pay for an anti-immigrant campaign designed to spread fear and tear apart communities.

12. Ask: Demand Accountability from the Presidential Advisory Commission on Election Integrity. OPPOSE the Commission and its creation by Executive Order with no evidence whatsoever of massive voter fraud in the 2016 Election.

DEMAND Trump provide Congress with the funding mechanism used by this Commission to ensure it is both legal and a wise use of taxpayer dollars;

DEMAND Trump and his administration make available all “evidence” and any documents/broadcasts/communications that led to Trump’s claims, so that the American people can weigh in on the Commission before it proceeds any further;

DEMAND Kris Kobach be removed from the Commission, due to his personal & professional history of attempting to disenfranchise legitimate voters, including through false statements and failure to identify any factual basis for his actions in many areas;

OPPOSE the Commission’s mission, as stated in its draft by-laws, as it allows the Commission to investigate anything associated with elections in the USA without any evidence;

DENOUNCE, through statements and actions, the fear being instilled in voters around the country who are concerned there are no provisions for protecting their personal information.


14. Ask: What steps are being taken to ensure the integrity of coming elections?

15. Schedule next meeting. Photo