Senator Cantwell’s Tacoma Office
950 Pacific Avenue, Suite 615
January 31, 2018 at 11:30 a.m.
Olympia Indivisible Delegation Visit with
Rosa McLeod,
South Sound & Olympic Peninsula Outreach Director

Olympia Indivisible Members attending: Larry Goldstein, Nancy Stevenson, Phyllis Sturges, and Carla Wulfsberg

Agenda:
1. Introduction of Olympia Indivisible delegation
2. Rosa McLeod, introduction

THANK YOUS
Health Care, Health Issues
- Thank you and other Democratic senators for leveraging a six-year extension for CHIP, which has been a high priority for Olympia Indivisible members.

- Thank you for voting against the 20-week abortion bill and for criticizing Republicans for holding a vote on a bill that had no possibility of passing instead of focusing on more pressing issues such as reaching a spending deal by Feb 8. *(The Hill 1.29.18)*

Protecting Our Environment, Public Lands, & Public Safety
- Thank you for sending a letter with Senator Murray and 14 other senators to Trump in response to a leaked draft of his Nuclear Posture Review that will lead to development of new nuclear weapons and add $1.7 trillion to the budget. The letter states that Trump’s plan for “more useable low-yield nuclear weapons and Cold War-era weapons systems are unnecessary to maintain deterrence and are destabilizing.” *(US Senate letter 1.29.18)*
Thank you for your letter with Senator Murray, and six Congressional Representatives from Washington State to Heath Hall, Acting Administrator, Federal Railroad Administration, US Dept. of Transportation, calling for a comprehensive update on the status of the nationwide implementation of the Positive Train Control (PTC) by December 31, 2018. A preliminary report shows that the recent derailment of the Amtrak Cascades Train near DuPont could have been prevented by the PTC. (Senate Letter 1-18-18)

Thank you for the in-depth questioning during the hearing of the Trump administration’s nominee for Assistant Secretary for the Office of Environmental Management, the office responsible for cleaning up 16 nuclear weapons sites in 11 states. You asked for improved safety and a budget that doesn’t short-change the Hanford site as did last year’s cut of over $100 million dollars. (Cantwell News Release 1.18.18)

Thank you for speaking out against Secretary Zinke’s secretly-negotiated deal to give away publicly-owned land in Alaska’s Izembek National Wildlife Refuge. You are refer to this an yet another example of Zinke’s “continued willingness to ignore the law.” He and Republican leaders of the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee gave public land for the construction of a road without any environmental review. (Source: transportationtodaynews.com 1.24.18)

Thank you for questioning why Secretary of the Interior Zinke has yet to nominate an agency director. Thanks for standing up for the 10 National Parks System Advisory Board members who resigned this month and for calling on Secretary Zinke to personally reach out to each Board member to tell them their counsel is valued and local voices are respected. (Washington Post 1.17.18)

Thank you for pressing government and industry leaders for protocols of the nation’s emergency alert system to prevent false alarms and to insure safeguards for the public. Example of how it backfired was the recent false emergency missile alert sent out in Hawaii that caused widespread panic with no correction for 40 minutes. (Cantwell News Release 1.25.18)
Protecting Our Democracy, State’s Rights, Civil Rights

- Thank you for your stand with Senator Murray and other Senate Democrats to protect net neutrality as guaranteed in the 2015 Open Internet Order which the D.C. Circuit Court upheld in 2016. We applaud your statement earlier this month, “We cannot allow the FCC to put a choke hold on the internet by allowing big corporations to create artificial fast lanes or charge consumers more…” (Cantwell News Release 1.16.18)

- Thank you for sending a letter on January 18, with Senator Murray and 13 other Senators, urging Kenneth Blanco, Director of Financial Crimes Enforcement, US Dept of the Treasury to continue to allow financial institutions to provide banking services for cannabis businesses in states with legal marijuana. (NCB Right Now 1.25.18)

- Thank you for requesting in a Senate Commerce Subcommittee hearing the help of David Pekoske, TSA Administrator, additional canines to help reduce wait times by nearly half at SeaTac Airport. SeaTac has an increase of nearly 2 million travelers in 2017 and is one of the fastest growing airports in the country. (Cantwell News Release 1.23.18)

ASKS

1) ASK : Budget - A Fix for DACA
Many of us were deeply disappointed that you and other Democratic senators were not able to leverage a government shutdown to obtain passage of a solution for DACA. We do, however, recognize the political realities of being in the minority. There is yet another opportunity to address DACA before February 8. We ASK that you hold Senator McConnell to his commitment to consider a real DACA extension that does not hold the DREAMERS hostage to Trump’s funding the border wall.

2) ASK – Budget – Trump’s Infrastructure Plans
Please vote against Trump’s infrastructure framework plan which was leaked this past week. It leans heavily on funding from private investors to finance the rebuilding of our nation’s infrastructure. This will result in weakened labor and environmental standards, higher state and local taxes, and higher costs to repay via
tolls and user fees. Please push for a real infrastructure plan that is robust, comprehensive, equitable and sustainable.

3) ASK: Foreign Relations
We want Congress to stop Trump’s support to the Saudis who are continuing an illegal and inhumane war in Yemen Please Vote for the resolution that allows Congress to reclaim its constitutional war powers under the War Powers Resolution. We want you, and all the senators, to reclaim your constitutional war powers instead of giving yet more power to Trump.

4) ASK: Protect Our Democracy
Don’t let Trump fire Robert Mueller. Congress must step up to protect Mueller, especially after the recent departure of the White House counsel Don McGahn and the Republicans on the House Intelligence Committee’s voting to release a classified Memo authored by Devin Nunes to discredit the DoJ. We understand that a key Senate roadblock has been Judiciary Chairman Chuck Grassley who has constitutional concerns with the proposed bills. Please support S.1735 (Special Counsel Independence Protection Act) and S.1741 (Special Counsel Integrity Act.) These bills have had no action since September 2017.

5) ASK: Protect Our Democracy
Continue to demand that the White House implement the mandatory sanctions on Russia that were passed in the Senate 97-2. These sanctions are a result of Russia’s interference in the 2016 US elections. We agree with Senator Schumer in his statement on January 30 that “This is an extreme dereliction of duty by President Trump, who seems more intent on undermining the rule of law in this country than standing up to Putin.” (Reuters 1.30.18)

6) Ask: Protect Internet Freedom
Please continue to work to get the votes to protect net neutrality. Senator Ed Markey’s “resolution of disapproval” under the Congressional Review Act (CRA) would nullify the FCC’s December vote to kill net neutrality with its deceptively-named rollback (“Restoring Internet Freedom Order”). We ask that you get the votes to restore the net neutrality protections put in place in 2015.
7) ASK: Protect Consumers

Please vote NO on Senate Bill 2155, the “Economic Growth, Regulatory Relief, and Consumer Protection Act”. This bill will gut consumer protections for home loans. This bill is a huge giveaway to the rich and corporations with the Heritage Foundation-endorsed version of Wall Street deregulation.

Schedule next meeting.

Take Photo.
Senator Maria Cantwell
Committee Assignments

Senate Committee on Commerce, Science and Transportation
Subcommittee on Aviation Operations, Safety and Security
Subcommittee on Communications, Technology and the Internet
Subcommittee on Surface Transportation and Merchant Marine
Infrastructure, Safety and Security
Subcommittee on Oceans, Atmosphere, Fisheries, and Coast Guard

Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources- Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Energy
Subcommittee on Water and Power
Subcommittee on Public Lands, Forests and Mining

Senate Committee on Finance
Subcommittee on Energy, Natural Resources and Infrastructure
Subcommittee on Health Care
Member, Subcommittee on International Trade, Customs and Global Competitiveness

Senate Committee on Indian Affairs

Senate Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship