

Senator Murray's Tacoma Office

950 Pacific Avenue, Suite 650

January 31, 2018 at 10:30 a.m.

Olympia Indivisible Delegation Visit with
Kierra Phifer, South Sound Director

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

Agenda:

1. Introduction of Olympia Indivisible delegation
2. Kierra Phifer, 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 making a statement that “It goes against the Constitution, against medical experts, and against the rights of women across the country.” (*The Hill*, 1.29.18)
- Thank you for your public statement that blasted Trump’s health care sabotage resulting in 3.2 million more people who were uninsured by the end of 2017 compared to 2016. You called these results “tragic” and “putting millions of lives at risk.” You called for Trump and Republicans to reverse course and stop the sabotage of our health care system. (Murray News Release 1.16.18)

Protecting Public Education

- Thank you for your letter with eleven other senators to Betsy DeVos and Dr. A. Wayne Johnson, Dept of Education, stating your “significant concerns” about the continued use of private sector collection agencies that go after student loan borrowers who have fallen behind on their payments. The DoE’s system allows overpayment to these debt collectors while taxpayers must foot the bill. (US Senate Letter 1.23.18)

Protecting Our Environment, Public Lands, & Public Safety

- Thank you for sending a letter with Senator Cantwell 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 Cantwell, 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)

Protecting Our Democracy, State's Rights, & Civil Rights

- Thank you for your stand with Senator Cantwell 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 (Cantwell News Release 1.16.18)
- Thank you for sending a letter on January 18 with Senator Cantwell 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 your letter with 21 other senators to Secretary Acosta (Dept of Labor) and Acting Commissioner Wiatrowski (Bureau of Labor Statistics) to ask their agencies to collect data and an exact accounting of the extent and magnitude of sexual harassment in the labor force. The letter states, "We hope you will seriously address this enormous threat to our nation's workers by collecting data on the prevalence and cost of sexual harassment that can better inform policy and procedures to address these problems." (US Senate letter 1.29.18)

ASKS

1) ASK: Bi-Partisan Budget and 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 party. 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 of 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 Patty Murray

Committee Assignments

Health, Education, Labor & Pensions (HELP) Committee - Ranking Member

Employment and Workplace Safety
Children and Families Subcommittee

Appropriations Committee

Within the Appropriations Committee, **Senator Murray is Ranking Member of the Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education.**

Murray also serves on the following subcommittees:

**Military Construction and Veterans Affairs
Subcommittee**

Energy and Water Development Subcommittee

**Transportation, Housing and Urban Development and
Related Agencies**

Defense Subcommittee

Homeland Security Subcommittee

Committee on the Budget

Committee on Veterans' Affairs

Democratic Leadership - Conference Secretary