

Senator Murray's Tacoma Office

950 Pacific Avenue, Suite 650

March 8, 2018 at 10:30 a.m.

Olympia Indivisible Delegation Visit with
Kierra Phifer, South Sound Director

Olympia Indivisible Members attending Joni Brill, Bill DePoto, Michael Leierer, and Carla Wulfsberg

Agenda:

1. Introduction of Olympia Indivisible delegation
2. Kierra Phifer, introduction

THANK YOUs

A. Health Care

- Thank you for you recent work to lower premiums for health care!
- Thank you for your hard work to help resolve the early learning and child care crisis in our country by introducing legislation, the Child Care for Working Families Act. This offers many benefits to families, including universal access to high-quality preschool programs for all 3 and 4 year olds. [March 6, 2018]
- Thank you for demanding the resignation of Scott Lloyd as Director of the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Office of Refugee Resettlement (ORR). Lloyd has attempted to deny vulnerable young women in the federal government's custody of the constitutional right to safe, legal abortion. [March 1, 2018]
- Thank you for joining the a group of bi-partisan senators to support the Comprehensive Addiction and Recovery Act (CARA) 2.0 that would increase funding for the CARA programs to combat the opioid epidemic. This will put in place additional policy reforms, including limits for initial opioid prescriptions for acute pain to three days.

- Thank you for joining with Senator Cantwell and 8 Senate colleagues in a letter on March 5 to demand that Secretary of State Tillerson explain “deliberate censorship of critical reproductive rights and discrimination in the State Department’s annual Country Reports on Human Rights Practices for 2017.” The sections removed from the reports “describe societal views on family planning, including how much access women have to contraceptives and abortion” and information on “discrimination, societal abuses, and trafficking in persons.”
[Letter to Rex Tillerson, March 5, 2018]

B. Gun Legislation

- Thank you for co-sponsoring S. 1923 – Background Check Completion Act of 2017 prohibiting firearms dealers from selling a firearm prior to the completion of a background check. Experts estimate that 1 out of 5 guns now sold in America are done so without a Brady background check-- at gun shows or online.
- Thank you for writing to Health & Human Services Secretary Azar asking him to make gun violence research a “priority” for the Department. [Feb. 27, 2018]

C. Protecting Our Environment

- Thank you for joining with 23 Senators, including Senator Cantwell, in a letter to Secretary Zinke requesting an extension of the March 9, 2018 deadline to submit comments on the draft proposed program for leases to drill oil and gas off the Washington Coast.

D. Protecting our Democracy

1. Consumer Protection, Economy

- Thank you for voting NO on S. 2155, the bank lobbyist act, that would roll back restrictions on big banks, including foreign banks doing business in the U.S.. This bill would roll back consumer protections and oversight of large banks put in place with the Dodd-Frank bill of 2008. Please vote No when this vote comes up again later this week.
- Thank you for securing \$9 million in funding for the City of Spokane Valley that will improve the safety and efficiency of freight and rail in Spokane Valley and increase access. [March 6, 2018]

2. Our Tribes

- Thank you for sponsoring legislation introduced by Senator Cantwell, S. 995, to compensate the Spokane Tribe for the use of tribal lands to generate hydropower from the Grand Coulee Dam.

3. Net Neutrality

- Thank you for joining with members of the Senate and House to introduce a Congressional Review Act (CRA) resolution to restore the 2015 Open Internet Order that the FCC repealed in February.

ASKS

1) ASK : HEALTH, Budget - Protecting Nutrition for Low Income Americans

Protect the supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP). To save money, Trump's budget will cut household benefits by more than \$260 billion over 10 years (40%). [Half of these funds would be used to give households a government-purchased *non-perishable food box instead of* food that households would otherwise purchase at the grocery store. This will radically restructure how SNAP benefits are provided. The current public-private partnership allows SNAP recipients the dignity of choosing what foods best meet their family's needs. The proposed new system would be a significant cost shift to states and nonprofit food distributors, not to mention the disruption of the program for SNAP participants.]

2) ASK: Protect People with Disabilities

Oppose H.R. 620 – ADA Education and Reform Act of 2017. All Americans deserve equal access to public spaces. Democrats say this bill would set civil rights for disabled Americans back decades. It “prohibits civil actions based on the failure to remove an architectural barrier to access into an existing public accommodation” and requires “training for professionals to provide a guidance of remediation for potential violation of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990.” This bill has passed the House.

3) ASK: HEALTH. March is Colorectal Cancer Month

Cosponsor S. 479 - Removing Barriers to Colorectal Cancer Screening Act of 2017. This bill would fix a glitch in the current Medicare coverage, if during routine colonoscopy, the removal of a polyp might occur. As a result, the person being screened can receive a large unexpected coinsurance payment. [People on Medicare might forego the cancer prevention screening due to this glitch in Medicare coverage. (Letter to the Editor, *Kirkland Reporter*, March 5, 2018)]

4) ASK: Protect Our Quality of Life (Gun legislation)

Oppose H.R. 38 - Concealed Carry Reciprocity Act. Of 2017 This bill amends the federal criminal code to allow a qualified individual to carry a concealed handgun into or possess a concealed handgun in another state in which individuals are allowed to carry concealed firearms. It has passed the House. Potential danger of people carrying concealed weapons across state lines. Please oppose this!

5) ASK: Protect Our Quality of Life (Gun legislation)

Co-sponsor and support S. 2135 – Fix NICS Act of 2017 -to enforce current law - National Instant Background Check System. It amends the Brady Handgun bill of 1994. Please co-sponsor S. 2135 which has bi-partisan support.

Please continue to support S. 1923 – Background Check Completion Act of 2017 that prohibits firearm dealers from selling a firearm prior to the completion of a background check. This bill extends the Brady background check law of 1994 (which has stopped more than 3 million gun sales to convicted felons, domestic abusers, fugitives from justice and other dangerous people.)

6) Ask: Protect Our Quality of Life (Gun-related legislation)

Continue to support S. 834 – a bill to authorize the appropriation of funds to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention for conducting or supporting research on firearms safety or gun violence prevention.

7) ASK: War in Yemen

Support S.J. Res.54 , Senator Sanders' bill – “A joint resolution to direct the removal of United States Armed Forces from hostilities in the Republic of Yemen that have not been authorized by Congress.” Trump has supported the Saudis who are continuing an illegal and inhumane war in Yemen

8) ASK: Protect Our Veterans

Support S. 1072 - Homeless Veterans Prevention Act of 2017.

This bill offers support and services to homeless veterans, including care for a dependent under the care of a veteran who is receiving services, expands dental care, and completes a study of VA assistance to homeless veterans.

9) ASK: Protect Our Environment

Last week, Pruitt announced he will scrap EPA rules restricting the disposal of coal ash, the toxic byproduct from coal-fired power plants. Coal ash often contains arsenic, chromium, lead, and mercury and has caused major water contamination problems across the country. Please confront Scott Pruitt on this issue and protect our water and air.

10) ASK: Budget - Immigration

We ask that you continue to work to fix DACA that does not include a border wall. Is there a plan for resolving this or just a temporary extension of DACA, pushing it past the midterm elections?

11) ASK: Budget – Campaign Finance

Protect the Johnson Amendment, which prohibits churches and other non-profits from donating and promoting political campaigns.

12) ASK: Town Hall

We ask that you hold at least one town hall in Western Washington during the March recess. Your constituents in Olympia Indivisible would like to meet with you. You have not offered one town hall since Trump was elected.

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