CALL TO ACTION – October 29
This week: Expose the GOP/Trump Tax Scam - Three ACA Actions - Turn Virginia Blue - Plus more!

PROTECT OUR QUALITY OF LIFE

Stop The GOP/Trump Tax Scam

Republicans have completed Phase 1 of their #TrumpTaxScam. Now the fight is on. On Thursday, 216 House Republicans voted to pass the budget resolution, a critical first step in passing the Trump Tax Scam. That means the stage is set for Republicans to cut taxes for the rich and corporations by forcing cuts to Medicaid, Medicare, and Social Security down the road -- unless we stop them.

- The Trump Tax Scam is a massive giveaway to the wealthy and corporations, paid for by raising taxes on some middle class families and forcing deep cuts to Medicaid, Medicare, and Social Security down the road. Republicans want to eliminate taxes that only affect the wealthiest individuals and let corporations pay even less than they already do. The vast majority of the benefits from the Republicans’ plan will go to the top 1%, which will exacerbate our country’s massive racial wealth gap.
- Republicans are expected to unveil the full text of their tax bill on Wednesday, after months of speculation. Two memos showed early on that “tax reform” is nothing more than giveaways for Trump and his buddies.
- Then, the race to give their rich Republican donors is really on. After Republicans introduce their bill on Wednesday, we expect the House to begin marking up their bill during the week of November 6 and they may vote as early as the week of November 13. As soon as the House votes, the Senate will begin marking up their bill. The Senate will likely vote on their bill right before or right after Thanksgiving.
- But we. can. stop. this. Republicans are already struggling to get this bill off the ground. The House had 20 Republicans defect during their vote on the budget resolution teeing up the Tax Scam. If we demonstrate widespread opposition to their bill from the beginning -- if we show up, if we make calls, if we write letters to the editor, if we out organize them -- we can control the narrative.

Our MoCs:
- Denny Heck voted against the tax bill in the House on October 26th.
- All Democratic senators voted against the senate tax bill earlier in the month.

ACTION:
- Call our MoCs and thank them for voting against the tax bill in the House and Senate.
- Maria Cantwell: (253) 572-2281 Patty Murray: (253) 572-3636 Denny Heck: 360-459-8514
- From re.act: Use this form to submit a letter to the editor to your local newspapers on the so-called tax reform. Includes tips, samples, and more. (Click to tweet)
- Tune in to Facebook Live on MONDAY 10/30 at 5:30 PM PT. Indivisible will be joined by Emanuel Nieves of Prosperity Now to discuss the impact of the #TrumpTaxScam proposal, particularly on communities of color. Like us on Facebook now and you’ll get a notification when we go live!
- Get ready for a National Call In Day on November 2: After Republicans drop their bill on Wednesday, Indivisible will provide a full analysis, call scripts, and contact information.
- Get ready for National Week of Action to defeat the #TrumpTaxScam, more to follow.

Resources:
Submit your letter to any or all of these District 10 papers. Our Members of Congress pay attention to what is published! Be sure to personally sign your letter rather than submit it as a member of Olympia Indivisible. This will help each letter be published separately.

The Olympian:  theolympian.com/opinion/letters-to-the-editor/submit-letter/

The Tacoma News Tribune: thenewstribune.com/opinion/letters-to-the-editor/submit-letter/

The Puyallup Herald is owned by The News Tribune. Use the same address and state that your letter is for The Puyallup Herald:  thenewstribune.com/opinion/letters-to-the-editor/submit-letter/

The Shelton-Mason County Journal  http://www.masoncounty.com/submit-newsletter-to-the-editor.html

SAVE THE ACA

Three messages to deliver to our MoC’s this week on health care:

1. Congress Needs to Reauthorize the Children’s Health Insurance Program (CHIP) – Oppose HR 3921

House Republicans want to pass a partisan CHIP bill. House Majority Leader Kevin McCarthy (R CA-23) announced Thursday that the House would vote on a bill to fund the Children’s Health Insurance Program (CHIP) next week. However, the Healthy Kids Act (H.R. 3921) extends CHIP by by taking money away from the Affordable Care Act and weakening Medicare.

- The Children’s Health Insurance Program ensures nearly 9 million children have health insurance. CHIP is a federal-state partnership where the federal government provides most—or in some cases, all—of the funding necessary to cover uninsured children. Federal funding was increased as part of the Affordable Care Act.
- Congress is using the health insurance of 9 million kids as a political football. Bipartisan negotiations in the House fell apart over how to pay for CHIP. However, Majority Leader Kevin McCarthy (R CA-23) has announced that the House will vote on a partisan bill to fund CHIP next week. The Healthy Kids Act (H.R. 3921) extends CHIP by by taking money away from the Affordable Care Act and weakening Medicare. We need to reject the premise that we can only offer healthcare to children by taking it away from others.
- If Congress doesn’t act soon, states will start running out of money. Some states have already stopped taking new applications for CHIP. Check the map below to see when your state runs out of CHIP funding. Call your Member of Congress to tell them to reauthorize CHIP ASAP but using a bipartisan approach that won’t harm the American health care system!
- Washington State has separate CHIP coverage; the FY 2018 budget assumes continued federal funding; the FY 2018 budget assumed ACA enhanced match continues. Washington estimates that it will exhaust federal funding in the first quarter of 2018.

MoCs:
- Congressman Heck: (from FB) Here are things we can all agree on. An easy one: our kids should have the chance to grow up healthy! That’s why at the very minimum, we need to reauthorize the Children’s Health Insurance Program (CHIP).

ACTION:
- Call your MoCs and tell them to reauthorize CHIP using a bipartisan approach that won’t harm the American health care system.
- Script: Hello! My name is [ ] and I’m calling from [part of state]. I’m calling to ask that the [MoC] support reauthorization of the Children’s Health Insurance Program immediately, using a bipartisan approach. Our state runs out of funding the first quarter of 2018, so it’s really important that Congress do this immediately. I appreciate [MoC]’s support.

2. Women’s Reproductive Rights – Oppose HR 490
Summary: Republicans are coming after women’s reproductive rights.

- The House Subcommittee on the Constitution and Civil Justice will hold a hearing on November 1 on HR 490, "Heartbeat Protection Act of 2017." This bill is a draconian, anti-choice piece of legislation that would make it a federal crime for a doctor to perform an abortion on any woman whose fetus has a detectable heartbeat (which is as at 6 weeks, well before many women even realize they are pregnant).
- The "Heartbeat Bill" effectively bans all abortions starting six weeks into a pregnancy by making it a crime for a physician to knowingly perform an abortion without determining "whether the fetus has a detectable heartbeat," "without informing the mother of the results," or "after determining that a fetus has a detectable heartbeat." The sole exception to the ban is for an abortion which is medically necessary to save the life of the woman—ignoring a woman's psychological state, even in instances of rape or incest.
- Your MoCs need to hear from you that the Heartbeat Bill is a horrifying, extreme attack on reproductive health and a woman’s right to choose.

Our MoCs:
- Our MoCs have consistently supported a women’s right to choose.

**ACTION:**
- Call our MoCs and tell them you oppose this effort to criminalize women’s reproductive health.
- Script: Hello! My name is [name] and I’m from District 10. I’m calling to ask [MoC] to oppose the Heartbeat Protection Act of 2017 (H.R. 490). We must maintain access to safe and affordable abortions for all women in [part of state]. I appreciate [MoC]’s support.

3. **Stabilize the ACA**

**Hatch-Brady plan undermines Alexander-Murray compromise:** Vox reports that a new plan from Senate Finance Committee chairman Orrin Hatch and House Ways and Means chairman Kevin Brady undercut the bipartisan Lamar Alexander-Patty Murray compromise. The proposal would fund cost-sharing reduction payments for two years, with anti-abortion restrictions (rather than three in the bipartisan bill), but would also suspend the ACA individual mandate from 2017 to 2021 (undermining ACA exchange markets), suspend the employer mandate from 2015 to 2017 (retroactively), expand health savings accounts. This proposal would be unacceptable to Senate Democrats, likely (though not certainly) ensuring that it would not pass. If it did pass, the help provided to ACA exchange markets with cost-sharing reduction payments would be more than undone by suspending the individual mandate. Within the insurance industry, the proposal is seen as a deliberate attempt to undercut Alexander-Murray.

**ACTION:**
- Call Murray and Cantewell and tell them you oppose this effort to undermine Healthcare.

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**SAVE OUR DEMOCRACY**

**Turn Virginia Blue**

The voters of Virginia go to the polls to vote for governor on Tuesday, November 7th. Lt. Gov. Ralph Northam is the Democratic candidate. It is important to the entire country that we elect Democratic governors and flip red districts to blue. We must remember that Republicans are close to the magic number that would allow State Legislatures and Governors to make Constitutional changes. It’s an imperative mission.

- Virginians go to the polls in the first state-wide elections since Trump was elected. This is the first real test of our movement’s ability to turn the resistance into electoral power and we. can. WIN.
- The national Indivisible organizing team has built a tool (similar to the blue state calling tool from the healthcare fight!) where you can call or text voters in Virginia to encourage them to vote. It is a virtual phone banking and text banking volunteer program so that anyone, anywhere can Get Out the Vote in Virginia! All you need is a computer or tablet and a comfy chair

**ACTION:** Can you sign up for a volunteer shift before the election to help get others out to vote?  
Who: You and your friends!
What: Virtual phone bank for progressive Virginia House of Delegate candidates
Where: On your computer
When: 10/28, 10/29, 11/4, 11/5, 11/6, or 11/7, with various volunteer shifts available each day
RSVP here now! https://www.indivisible.org/gotv-virginia/

Additionally, Virginia has many good candidates running against Republicans Delegates for seats in their State Assembly. If you are inspired to take further action, you can find more information and further opportunities to volunteer, to help flip majority red state Virginia to blue.
Flippable https://flippable.org/virginia/ (Scroll Down and Click on Learn for more specific information);
MobilizeAmerica & VirginiaDemocracyForward https://events.mobilizeamerica.io/VirginiaDemocracyForward

**READY FOR MORE?**

Read This Week’s Research Report and find other important actions to take this week.
Topics include:

- Tell Congress not to extend unconstitutional surveillance authority - Support S 1997 and HR 412. Call your Members of Congress and tell them: don’t let Trump spy on us - close the “backdoor search” loophole, or let Section 702 expire.

- The National Park Service proposes more than doubling the entrance fees. Leave a comment on the National Park Web site on the proposal or tweet.

- Tell our senators to OPPOSE Amy Coney Barrett for US Court of Appeals, Eric Dreiband as head of DOJ Civil Rights Division and Thomas Farr for Federal Judgeship. They are a nasty lot.

FIND OUT MORE ABOUT THESE TOPICS IN THIS WEEK’S FABULOUS RESEARCH REPORT: http://www.olympiaindivisible.com/archives.html

**COMING SOON**

Nov. 6 Friday (6-8 pm)
Olympia Indivisible Members TGIF Gathering!
Bring your ideas for making America better! Three Magnets Brewery 600 Franklin St. Olympia.

SAVE THE DATE

OI Membership December Meeting
What: “Safeguarding Our Elections: Gerrymandering and Trump’s Election Integrity Commission”- presentation by Mary Hall, Thurston County Auditor. Questions and answers at the end.
When: Monday, December 4
Time: 7 - 8:30 p.m., Doors open 6:30 pm
Where: Room 152, Building 1, Thurston County Courthouse, - enter room from west side parking lot.