



CALL TO ACTION – February 24

STATE & COUNTY ACTIONS

Thurston Conservation District (TCD) Update

We are most pleased with this past week's decision by the Washington State Conservation Commission (WSCC) to remove two of the TCD Supervisors, Richard Mankamyer and Eric Johnson, who have created havoc for the staff and other Supervisors. We believe they are also behind the spurious suit brought by Joe Hannah against TCD Supervisors Paul Pickett and Doug Rushton, whose legal defense costs now exceed \$8,000.

No legal assistance of any kind is provided to Doug or Paul by the WSCC or the TCD. Costs are born by the supervisors themselves. We are asking to help offset these expenses. Any amount you can contribute is important and lets these supervisors know how much we support their convictions and their fortitude in the face of extreme adversity on our behalves. To date their defense fund has received \$1,435 in donations, leaving a substantial balance.

Here's information from Paul and Doug on how to donate. (Please note that they are asking for assistance as individual citizens. This fund and their request have no association with the Thurston Conservation District. It is solely their private initiative.)

1. Deposit your donation at Olympia Federal Savings, using the account name "Paul Pickett" and the last four digits of the account number: 1174.
2. Use our GoFundMe account to donate: <https://www.gofundme.com/save-our-thurston-cd-legal-defense-fund>. This is provided for your convenience, although some of your donation will be retained as a fee by GoFundMe.

Here are the guidelines for this fund:

1. Any funds will be shared equally between us, solely to reimburse ourselves for legal expenses.
2. We will keep records of their expenses and reimbursements, that any donor can review.
3. We will keep the account open until all legal actions are complete.
4. When the threat of legal expenses are over, if the account gets more money than needed for reimbursement, we will donate the remaining balance to one or more nonprofit groups that support Thurston CD and its mission.

ACTION: Donate!

Postcard Parties

In March, we will resume our postcard writing parties to support legislation, to encourage voting in special elections, and to thank our State and Federal representatives. The parties will be on the first Tuesday 10:00 AM to noon and

the third Thursday 6:00 to 8:00 PM each month. Please RSVP so we can plan for these events, and bring some cash for a small donation to cover the cost of the materials and postage.

Tuesday, March 5: POSTCARDS FOR PROGRESS

WHEN: 10:00 AM to noon

RSVP AND DIRECTIONS: olyindiptvrsvp@gmail.com

Your Washington State Legislature Is In Session

Bills for week of 02/18/19

Bills that need your support. Attend a Hearing and/or click to comment on the bill.

For immediate attention

LGBTQ

[SB 5356](#) : Establishing the Washington state LGBTQ commission. Creates the Washington state LGBTQ commission in the office of the governor. Requires the executive director of the commission to: (1) Monitor state legislation and advocate for legislation affecting LGBTQ people; (2) Work with state agencies to assess programs and policies;

(3) Coordinate with the minority commissions, women's commission, and human rights commission to address issues of mutual concern; and

(4) Work as a liaison between the public and private sector to eliminate barriers to economic and health equity.

Declares that June of each year will be known as LGBTQ pride month.

Three cheers! This bill survived the February 22nd cut-off date in the Senate. In order for it to survive the next cut-off date, it must be voted out of the **Senate Ways & Means Committee no later than March 1st.**

ACTION: Call or e-mail members of the Senate Ways and Means Committee and urge them to support this bill and pass it out of committee. We encourage you to call and email the entire committee, even if your Representative or Senator is not a member of the committee. These committees, and particularly the Chairperson, hold the key to what legislation is heard and not heard. Here are e-mails for the members of the Senate Ways & Means Committee:

Chair Senator Christine Rolfes
Vice Chair Senator David Frockt
Senator Sam Hunt

(360) 786 - 7644
(360) 786 - 7690
(360) 786-7642

Christine.Rolfes@leg.wa.gov,
John.Braun@leg.wa.gov,
barbara.bailey@leg.wa.gov,
Reuven.Carlyle@leg.wa.gov,
Bob.Hasegawa@leg.wa.gov,
Marko.Lias@leg.wa.gov,
Ann.Rivers@leg.wa.gov,
Keith.Wagoner@leg.wa.gov,
Michael.Bezanson@leg.wa.gov

David.Frockt@leg.wa.gov,
sharon.brown@leg.wa.gov,
randi.becker@leg.wa.gov,
Steve.Conway@leg.wa.gov,
Sam.Hunt@leg.wa.gov,
guy.palumbo@leg.wa.gov,
mark.schoesler@leg.wa.gov,
Judy.Warnick@leg.wa.gov

Mark.Mullet@leg.wa.gov,
Jim.Honeyford@leg.wa.gov,
Andy.Billig@leg.wa.gov,
jeannie.darneille@leg.wa.gov,
Karen.Keiser@leg.wa.gov,
Strom.Peterson@leg.wa.gov,
Luanne.VanWerven@leg.wa.gov,
Claire.Wilson@leg.wa.gov

2/25/19 Monday

Justice

Bills to **Support:**

Senate Law & Justice on 2/25/19 at 8:30 AM

[SHB 1002](#) - Modifying the offense of rape in the third degree.

[HB 1252](#) - Concerning crime committed by business entities.

Education

Bills to **Support**:

Scheduled for public hearing in the Senate Committee on Ways & Means on 2/25/19 at 1:30 PM

[SB 5313](#) Concerning school levies. Would allow a school district to choose a maximum levy lid of either 20 percent of the total state and federal funds, or \$3,500 per pupil. Passed by the Senate Early Learning & K-12 Education Committee

2/26/19 Tuesday

Revenue

Bills to **Support**:

House Committee on Finance on 2/26/19 at 8:00 AM

[HB 1703](#) Increasing tax exemption transparency and accountability. Hundreds of tax exemptions and special 7 tax preferences have been granted to special interests by the 8 legislature without requiring assessment of whether those exemptions 9 and preferences would create jobs or result in increased economic 10 activity which increases state revenues. **Doglio** is a sponsor.

Houselessness

Bills to **Support**:

House Committee on Finance on 2/16/19 at 8:00 AM

[HB 1590](#) Allowing the local sales and use tax for affordable housing to be imposed by a councilmanic authority would authorize county or city legislative authorities to impose the local sales and use tax for housing and related services and eliminate the requirement that the imposition of the tax be subject to the approval of a majority of county or city voters at a general or special election. **Dolan and Doglio** are sponsors.

Criminal Justice/Transportation

Bills to **Support**:

House Committee on Transportation on 2/26/19 at 1:30 PM

[HB 1282](#) Concerning driver's license suspensions and revocations. Many DWLS offenses result from low income individuals who do not have the ability to pay the money to get their license reinstated. Public safety concerns are still addressed by this bill as offenses like DUI are still a reason for license suspension and would still result in a crime if the person drives without a license. Companion to [SB 5328](#) public hearing was 2/2/0/19. **Hunt** is a sponsor. Supported by League of Women Voters.

2/27/19 Wednesday

Economic Development/Technology

Bills to **Support**:

Senate Committee on Ways & Means on 2/27/19 at 1:30 PM

[SB 5511](#) 'Expanding affordable, resilient broadband service to enable economic development, public safety, health care, and education in Washington's communities.' Requested by Office of the Governor. **Sheldon** is a sponsor. Companion bill [HB 1498](#) is in Appropriations. **Doglio** is a sponsor.

2/28/19 Thursday

Environment

Bills to **Support**:

House Committee on Transportation on 2/28/19 at 8:00 AM

[HB 1832](#) Concerning the electrification of the Washington public vehicle fleet. **Doglio** is a sponsor.

Education

Bills to **Support**:

Senate Committee on Ways & Means on 2/28/19 at 1:30 PM

[SJR 8201](#) Amending the Constitution to allow a simple majority of voters voting to authorize school district bonds. A proposed constitutional amendment is submitted to the voters at the 2019 general election to allow school districts to issue general obligation bonds for capital purposes, levy taxes to make payments on those bonds, and exceed the constitutional debt limit with majority voter approval. **Hunt** is a sponsor. Companion [HJR 4203](#) had public hearing 2/14/19. **Dolan** is a sponsor.

[SB 5066](#) - Providing for approval of school district bonds by a simple majority of the voters voting. Current law requires 60%. **Hunt** is a sponsor.

2/29/19 Friday

Housing

Bills to **Support**:

Senate Committee on Ways & Means on 3/1/19 at 1:30 PM

[SB 5025](#) Creating sales and use and excise tax exemptions for self-help housing development. Bipartisan support.

PROTECT OUR QUALITY OF LIFE

Ask Denny Heck to Support H.R.1004 - To prohibit the introduction of United States Armed Forces into hostilities with respect to Venezuela, and for other purposes.

The trump administration is taking measures in preparation to attacking Venezuela and in response Rep. David Cicilline, Dem from RI, has introduced HR 1004 to "oppose unauthorized military intervention in Venezuela". It has 35 cosponsors, but Denny Heck is not one of them. This bill has been referred to two committees, Armed Services and Foreign Affairs and as Denny is not a member of either committee, he is unlikely to cosponsor in the early stages. Nevertheless, it is important for us to make it clear to Rep. Heck, that we want him to support this bill and do all he can to prevent a US invasion of Venezuela.

Trump sounds like he wants his own war and he's selling it to the American people with the promise of oil. We have heard this lie before, then lots of people die, Venezuelans and Americans. And corporations make money. What we should do is support the proposed negotiations led by Mexico and Uruguay to facilitate a peaceful transition of power.

https://act.winwithoutwar.org/act/tell-rep-block-venezuela-military-action_H1004

ACTION: Call Representative Denny Heck (360) 459-8514

Script: My name is _____; a member of Olympia Indivisible and I am calling to ask Rep. Heck to support HR 1004 opposing unauthorized military intervention in Venezuela at the least or to cosponsor this bill. The US history of foreign intervention, especially in the Americas is shameful. The Venezuelan people oppose an invasion and they have suffered enough; we do not need to put more people in harm's way, we do not need more war, support HR 1004.

Resist the Continuing Republican Vendetta Against Planned Parenthood

In another irony for an administration and a Republican Congress that seem incapable of recognizing ironies, the Trump administration is relying on executive orders to continue their attempts to deny funding to Planned Parenthood, as a major weapon in their vendetta. The irony is that the Republicans continually accused President Obama of 'executive overreach' and being 'and imperial President' and are now resolutely silent in the face of more extreme behavior by Trump.

The issues is described by Washington Post and New York Times in reporting that the Trump administration issued a rule barring groups that provide abortions or abortion referrals from participating in the \$286 million federal family planning program, a move that is expected to redirect millions from Planned Parenthood to faith-based groups. Under the change, which opponents plan to challenge in court, federally-funded family planning clinics can no longer refer a patient for abortion and will have to maintain a "clear physical and financial separation" between services funded by the government and any organization that provides abortions or referrals for abortions.

Title X provides funds for programs that provide services such as birth control, breast cancer and cervical cancer screening and treatment for sexually-transmitted diseases. They serve 4 million patients annually, many of them poor, at over 4,000 clinics. About 40% of the clinics are operated by Planned Parenthood, which currently receives close to \$60 million through the program annually. In many parts of the country, Planned Parenthood is the only provider who participates in Title X.

Recipients of grants under the Title X program, which serves mostly low-income women, were already prohibited from performing abortions with those funds. They would not be prohibited from talking about abortion with patients but now they would be prohibited from telling patients where they can obtain an abortion. The family planning changes are part of a broader effort by the administration's social conservatives to reshape how the federal government views family planning and LGBTQ rights. Health and Human Services (HHS) has previously issued rules that allow employers to deny insurance coverage of birth control on religious or moral grounds.

Both of Washington's Senators have been forceful in their opposition to this recent action. Senator Cantwell said "I stand against President Trump's ongoing attacks on women's reproductive health". Senator Murray said that this rule is meant to "further erode women's constitutionally protected rights" and that it will disproportionately impact "women of color and women who rely on clinics for affordable care".

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Even though both of our Senators have spoken out, it is unlikely that Congress will be able to overturn this, as even if a few Republican Senators break ranks and support corrective legislation, there would not be enough votes to overturn a Presidential veto. Our most effective recourse is the Federal Courts. Washington Attorney General Bob Ferguson has been successful at bringing litigation against many of Trump's other overreaches; OI members should urge him to take this case on as well.

ACTION: Contact Washington Attorney General Bob Ferguson and request that he file a lawsuit blocking the Trump administration's new rule.

Telephone

- **Main Office:**
(360) 753-6200

Online

- [General Contact Form](#) (for NON consumer-related correspondence)

Script:

My name is _____, and I am a member of Olympia Indivisible. I urge Attorney General Ferguson to bring a lawsuit against the Trump administration rule that effectively blocks Planned Parenthood from receiving Title X federal family planning funds. As Senator Murray has said, this is clearly an attack on the constitutional protections of women's reproductive rights, and it will have a disproportionate effect on women of color and those who lack economic privilege. Attorney General Ferguson must act now to protect Washington women from this blatant attempt by the Trump administration to weaken constitutional protections and restrict choice.

Speak Up About Potential Environmental Impact of Green Cove Park Development

There is a Housing development plan for Green Cove Park on the westside of Olympia once again (<http://olympiawa.gov/news-and-faq-s/construction-news/green-cove-park.aspx>). The project has potential negative environmental impacts for Thurston County which is just across the street. The City of Olympia has given citizens Until this Thursday to comment.

Unfortunately the city has just posted the information above and have scheduled a neighborhood meeting for this week, Feb. 28th, Thursday@ 6:00 p.m. Comments are due March 1st.
chornbei@ci.olympia.wa.us, tsmith@ci.olympia.wa.us, citycouncil@ci.olympia.wa.us,
Any comments are welcome; they must address any issues that you mention. You have to insert #19-0330 in your comments. Also, ask for a reply that they got your comment (sometimes the comments are "lost").

We have two OI members who are well informed on this topic. If you want more information, please email indivisibletom@gmail.com Subject: Green Cove and I will forward it on to them.

SAVE OUR DEMOCRACY

Stamp Money Out of Politics

This sounded like fun and the same time it gets the message of resistance out far and wide. Move On org Civic Action is supporting H.R. 1, the For the People Act which is designed to get money out of politics. The founders of Ben & Jerry's ice cream are offering a chance to win free ice cream for a year if you donate \$16 or more to Move On. You will receive a STAMPED RUBBER STAMP so you can rubber stamp paper currency with the message "Stamp Money Out of Politics." Yes, this is legal, and this protest began back in 2012. If you want a chance to win 52 pints of Ben & Jerry's ice cream, you must make a donation by March 3, 2019.

Here is a picture of what a bill looks like after it's been stamped! Pretty great, right?



[Click here to get your stamp now and be entered to win a year of free ice cream!](#)

COMING SOON

March 1, Friday 6-8:00 pm

Olympia Indivisible Members TGIF Gathering!

Wrap up another week of resistance! **RJ's Gourmet Grill 318 4th Ave E Olympia**