PROTECT OUR QUALITY OF LIFE
March for Our Lives Rally This Saturday

From the March For Our Lives Facebook page: “March For Our Lives is created by, inspired by, and led by students across the country who will no longer risk their lives waiting for someone else to take action to stop the epidemic of mass school shootings that has become all too familiar. In the tragic wake of the seventeen lives brutally cut short in Florida, politicians are telling us that now is not the time to talk about guns. March For Our Lives believes the time is now.”

The Florida school shooting may someday be remembered as a turning point in our mass shooting history. This Saturday, Olympia area students will be out in force to end gun violence and we must support them. Grab your banners and protest regalia and help our young people make a difference!

March For Our Lives - Olympia Rally - Saturday, March 24th at 11:00am to 1:00pm at the Washington State Capitol
https://event.marchforourlives.com/event/march-our-lives-events/9458/signup/?source=ggnp_mfl_b&akid=&zip

STOP Republican Sneak Attacks This Week On Immigration and Medical Coverage plus the Cloud Act

The dysfunctional Republican Congress is once again in familiar territory, with a must-pass budget bill deadline this week, March 23, or else causing a government shutdown. And again, Republicans must have some Democrat votes in order for the Senate to pass the Omnibus Bill that contains the budget and a host of other provisions. The text of the omnibus has not been released to the public yet; leading to a lot of speculation about what extra provisions may be proposed. At least three proposals that are currently being discussed are dreadful, and should be rejected by Democrats. Your voice will help our MOCs be aware of our opposition to these measures:

- **Increased funding for deportations** – Trump is asking for billions of dollars in funding for his border wall, additional funding for detention beds and facilities, and an increase in funding for both Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) and Customs and Border Protection (CBP). In short, while Congress has failed at providing desperately needed relief for Dreamers, Republicans are about to increase funding for their deportation.
- **Eliminating federal funding for Sanctuary Cities** – Trump officials are encouraging conservative allies in Congress to prevent “sanctuary cities” from receiving federal funds, as a provision of the Omnibus Bill.
- **Reversing the bilateral agreement to lower prescription drug costs** - Pharmaceutical companies are urging Congress to revise a recently enacted drug provision as part of the Omnibus. Under the Affordable Care Act, the prescription coverage “doughnut hole” has been steadily closing and was scheduled to be eliminated in 2020. The budget law closes the coverage gap next year by requiring drug manufacturers to pay more of the cost of enrollees’ drug expenses in the coverage gap. This permanent change lowers out-of-pocket costs for beneficiaries with high prescription medication costs.
The ACLU opposes adding the Cloud Act to the Omnibus bill. From the ACLU:

Today, the information of global activists — such as those that fight for LGBTQ rights, defend religious freedom, or advocate for gender equality are protected from being disclosed by U.S. companies to governments who may seek to do them harm. The CLOUD Act eliminates many of these protections and replaces them with vague assurances, weak standards, and largely unenforceable restrictions. Read here: https://www.aclu.org/blog/privacy-technology/internet-privacy/cloud-act-dangerous-piece-legislation

**ACTION:** Call our Members of Congress: Senator Patty Murray (253) 572-3636, Senator Maria Cantwell (253) 572-2281 and Representative Denny Heck (360) 459-8514.

**Script:** Hello, my name is ____________, and I am a member of Olympia Indivisible. I am calling to ask (Senator Murray, Cantwell, Representative Heck) to oppose Republican attempts to include regressive policies in the Omnibus Bill that must pass this week. Oppose increases in funding for deportations; it is the height of cruelty to put the Dreamers in jeopardy and then increase deportations. Oppose cutting off funding for Sanctuary Cities: communities should be able to reject Republican efforts to demonize immigrants. Oppose efforts to reverse the recent legislation that ends the prescription drug coverage “donut hole”; this is another attempt to take away from senior citizens and other vulnerable folks and give to the wealthy fat cats, in this case pharmaceutical corporations. Oppose adding the Cloud Act to the bill and protect global activists.

(if you’d like to see what our elected officials take in donations form big pharma got here: https://www.opensecrets.org

**Fight for Equality and Oppose Biased Judicial Appointment**

President Trump inherited a record number of empty judicial seats because the Republican majority in the Senate refused to confirm most of President Obama’s nominees in the final years of his administration. Now the Senate is rapidly confirming judges who oppose equality for LGBTQ citizens, people of color, women, and people with disabilities. Gordon Giampietro is an attorney nominated by President Donald Trump for federal judge in Wisconsin. Nominating a biased candidate for a lifetime judicial appointment threatens the civil rights for everyone. We need to oppose the appointment of a judge with no experience as a judge. In addition, Gordon Giampietro failed to disclose comments he made in the past demonstrating his opposition to marriage equality, birth control, and the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

**ACTION:** Call our Senators:

Senator Maria Cantwell (253)572-2281

Senator Patty Murray (253)572-3636

**Script for Murray and Cantwell:**

My name is ____________, and I am a member of Olympia Indivisible. I am calling to express my concern about a lifetime judicial nominee who opposes equality. Gordon Giampietro has made comments expressing his fierce opposition to marriage equality, birth control, and the Civil Rights Act of 1964. I ask Senator ____________ to stand up for women and our LGBTQ neighbors. Please reject this nominee. Thank you.

**Americans of Conscience Action Checklist** By Jen Hofmann has some good actions every week. https://docs.google.com/document/d/1uQlia6M52S2U4dSvQC863mR4ui0KTyvQttatx6Hb6QE/edit

**Call the Pentagon – Say No to Military Parade**

You can call the Pentagon and leave a message expressing your opinion about the military parade: 703-571-3343, ext 5. Just leave a voicemail.

Tell them we don’t want a military parade – we want our money spent on aiding our millions of Veterans instead of feeding Trump’s ego.
Sign Now: Demand Congress strengthen the Office of Congressional Ethics


COMING SOON

March 23 Friday (6-8:00 pm)
Olympia Indivisible Members TGIF Gathering!
Bring your ideas for making America better – oops - better! Three Magnets Brewery 600 Franklin St. Olympia.

March 24 Saturday (11:00 am)
March For Our Lives Olympia Capitol Building
https://event.marchforourlives.com/event/march-our-lives-events/9458/signup/?source=ggnp_mfl_b&akid=&zip=