



CALL TO ACTION – March 4

PROTECT OUR QUALITY OF LIFE

Oppose the Concealed Carry Reciprocity Act

This legislation is a top priority of the National Rifle Association. The Concealed Carry Reciprocity Act would allow the lowest standards on concealed weapons to prevail. States would be required to allow people from states with lower standards to carry concealed firearms without following more stringent regulations. This legislation would prevent Washington state from fully enforcing appropriate gun safety standards. It will make it easier for dangerous people to carry loaded, concealed guns in our state. Every major law enforcement association opposes this bill because of its threat to public safety. The House of Representatives has passed this bill, and the Senate is expected to take up this same bill this year.

ACTION:

Call Senator Maria Cantwell (206) 220-6400 Call Senator Patty Murray (206) 553-5545

Script:

My name is _____, and I am a member of Olympia Indivisible. I am calling to urge Senator _____ to oppose the Concealed Carry Reciprocity Act. This legislation would prevent our state from fully enforcing appropriate gun safety standards. Please stand against gun violence and reject the Concealed Carry Reciprocity Act. In light of the devastating mass shootings we have seen recently, it is important that we not weaken gun safety standards. That is why every major law enforcement agency has opposed this bill. Thank you.

Fight the Giveaway to Big Banks

Senate bill 2155, the Economic Growth, Regulatory Relief, and Consumer Protection Act is a huge giveaway to big banks. Dozens of the country's largest banks would escape the oversight intended to prevent another financial crisis. This bill favors banks over people and allows the same risk in our financial system that caused the last financial crisis. Specifically, international banks like Deutsche Bank, Barclays, and Santander would no longer be subject to certain standards, and banks that are currently failing government "stress tests" would no longer have to undergo the current tests. The bill allows racial discrimination in mortgage lending to go unchecked. In addition, a number of the consumer protections for homebuyers are repealed or eroded by this bill.

ACTION: Call Senator Maria Cantwell (206) 220-6400 Call Senator Patty Murray (206) 553-5545

Script:

Hi, my name is _____, and I am a member of Olympia Indivisible. I am calling because I would like Senator _____ to oppose bill S. 2155, the Economic Growth, Regulatory Relief, and Consumer Protection Act. This bill puts us at risk of another financial crisis, it erodes consumer protections, and it allows racial discrimination in mortgage lending to go unchecked. I hope the Senator will oppose it. Thank you.

Stand with Hungry Americans

The largest Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) savings in the budget would come from cutting household benefits by more than \$260 billion over ten years — some 40 percent — and using about half these funds to provide households a government-purchased non-perishable food box in lieu of food that households would otherwise purchase at the grocery store. In addition to the enormous benefit cut, the proposal would radically restructure how SNAP benefits are provided for the vast majority of recipients, upending SNAP's successful and efficient public-private partnership with some 260,000 retail stores around the country in favor a new government-driven approach to procuring food for SNAP households. Such a system would be a significant cost shift to states and nonprofit food distributors, and would be disruptive and costly for current SNAP participants.

ACTION: Call Patty Murray (253)572-3636, Maria Cantwell (253) 572-2281 and Denny Heck (360) 459-8514
Script: Hi. I'm from [ZIP], calling about the urgent need for food security in our community. I just read that SNAP benefits are already too low in 99% of US counties and this administration proposes to cut SNAP by 30%. I don't understand why congressional Republicans are shredding the social safety net. I *want* my taxes to feed hungry neighbors and give them the dignity of choosing what foods best meet their family's needs. What is [name] doing to increase food access for our neighbors in Washington State?

Stand for Equal Access to Public Spaces for All Americans

H.R. 620: ADA Education and Reform Act of 2017, a bill which just passed the House would update the law for disabled Americans for modern times, say Republicans. Democrats say it would set disabled Americans' civil rights back decades.

The Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, more commonly called the ADA, was a landmark law. It outlawed discrimination in employment, housing, or other areas on the basis of the applicant being disabled. It also required most businesses and buildings to accommodate disabled people, with features such as mandatory wheelchair ramps. The law's components were hardly controversial among Congress members at the time, passing the House 377–28 and the Senate 91–6. Yet in the decades since, most Republicans contend that provisions of the law have been exploited by anti-business lawyers.

ACTION: Call Patty Murray and Maria Cantwell
Script: Hi. I'm from [ZIP] and concerned about efforts to turn back the clock on the Americans with Disabilities Act. My neighbors deserve to learn, have access to businesses, get hired, and keep a job—just like everyone else. H.R. 620 is now in the Senate and would burden people with fighting for their access to these spaces. What is [name] doing to protect individuals from discrimination?

WA STATE LEGISLATION ACTIONS

Stand with Students and Support SB-6620

Tuesday students will be rallying for SB-6620 - Improving security in schools and the safety of students. This bill will:

- Raise the age limit to purchase semi-automatic rifles from 18-years-old to 21-years-old
Strengthen our law so that is no longer easier to purchase a semi-automatic rifle or shotgun than it is to purchase a handgun.
- Create the Students Protecting Students program to provide an anonymous, effective method of making authorities aware of threats.
- Fund education for students on how to report threats, as well as efforts by the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction to expedite law enforcement response to lockdowns or threats.
- Support law enforcement with grant funding to conduct local law enforcement checks on semi-automatic rifles and shotguns, just as they do on handguns today.

Students can sign up here: https://secure.gunresponsibility.org/page/s/March6_Rally

Comment here: <http://apps2.leg.wa.gov/billsummary?BillNumber=6620&Chamber=Senate&Year=2017>

And here: <http://apps2.leg.wa.gov/billsummary?BillNumber=3004&Chamber=House&Year=2017>

Thank Governor Inslee for His Veto and Tell Your Reps NO

Last week, Governor Inslee vetoed Governor Inslee veto SB 6617 which exempted the state Legislature from the Public Records Act. We asked him to do that call him up and say thanks. While you're at it tell him thanks for standing up to Trump regarding having 1st grade teachers (or any teachers) "packin" heat" in the classroom. Then, call your reps and tell them do NOT override that veto.

ACTION: Call Governor Inslee (360) 902-4111

Script: My name is _____, and I am a member of Olympia Indivisible. Thank you for listening to The People and vetoing SB6617. And thanks for standing up to Trump. I agree, guns don't belong in classrooms.

ACTION:

Call Senator Sam Hunt (360) 786-7642

Call Representative Laurie Dolan (360) 786-7940

Call Representative Beth Doglio (360) 786-7992

Script: My name is _____, and I am a member of Olympia Indivisible. I am calling to let you know I am pleased Governor Inslee vetoed SB6617 and I strongly request that you not attempt to override that veto.

If you are not in the 22nd – go here to find your rep: <http://app.leg.wa.gov/districtfinder/>

Fund Running Start

The state is considering cutting funding for Running Start, the successful program that allows high school students to take community college classes at no charge. We understand the budget needs to be balanced, but this is not the place to get the money. Contact the reps below to support Running Start.

The following individuals are key legislators in final budget negotiations:

christine.rolfes@leg.wa.gov – Senate Ways & Means Chair
david.frocht@leg.wa.gov – Senate Ways & Means Vice Chair
john.braun@leg.wa.gov – Senate Ways & Means Ranking Member
sam.hunt@leg.wa.gov – Senate Ways & Means Committee Member

tim.ormsby@leg.wa.gov – House Appropriations Chair
june.robinson@leg.wa.gov – House Appropriations Vice Chair
bruce.chandler@leg.wa.gov – House Appropriations Ranking Member
drew.macewen@leg.wa.gov – House Appropriation Ranking Member
drew.hansen@leg.wa.gov – House Higher Education Chair
ed.orcutt@leg.wa.gov
richard.debolt@leg.wa.gov

Sample message:

Dear xxxx,

I want to express my concern with a proposal (2SSB 6362) to significantly reduce the Running Start student rate provided to community and technical colleges. For the reasons cited below, a reduction in those rates will hurt our colleges, the Running Start program and students.

For the past several years, the Legislature has struggled to fund the requirements of the McCleary Supreme Court case. As solutions were identified and funding went to K-12, public higher education funding stagnated. At the same time, Running Start enrollments in our state's community and technical

increased. The Running Start rate is lower than the state support and tuition generated by other students, yet colleges provide Running Start students the same programs and services. As our community and technical colleges struggle to meet student needs, it is very upsetting to learn of the possibility that our colleges might not receive the new, higher reimbursement rate for Running Start students.

Running Start students are K-12 students, funded with basic education dollars. Running Start does not have its own appropriation -- the money follows the student. This is the long-term practice in our state; changing it now would damage one of the most popular programs we offer students and families. If a student chooses to earn college credits, tuition-free at one of our colleges, their fair share of state funding for instruction should go with them, not be reduced.

The planned Running Start rates over the next four years will just begin to bring funding parity for Running Start students. Continuing to short-change Running Start may cause a reduction in courses, learning support services and advising for all our students. Reducing Running Start funds will simply deliver one more cut to a community and technical college system that is already struggling under the weight of past budget cuts and years of stagnant funding. With no new funding, our colleges are being forced to cut programs, services and classes.

Please protect the Running Start program and students by supporting a budget in which the funding continues to follow the student.

Sincerely,
xxxx

KUDOS

Representative Denny Heck does a great job keeping the citizens up to date on his battles on our behalf. Here's a link to his latest. https://iqconnect.lmhostediq.com/iqextranet/view_newsletter.aspx?id=103421&c=WA10DH You can subscribe here: <https://dennyheck.house.gov/contact/newsletter>

The next time you call Denny's office on official business – take a minute to thank him for his willingness to maintain strong communication with his constituents.

READY FOR MORE?

Americans of Conscience Action Checklist By [Jen Hofmann](#) has some good actions every week. <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1kDwrQfF-k32qAe-GleftYZIFQ3br0yOplC56rpghr8c/edit>

COMING SOON

Monday, March 5 3-7 pm PST

OFFSHORE DRILLING – Public Hearing in Olympia!

The Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) will offer a public hearing in Olympia about the Trump Administration plans to sell oil leases off the Washington coast.

Hotel RL Olympia by Red Lion [2300 Evergreen Park Dr SW](#)

March 9 Friday (6-8 pm)

Olympia Indivisible Members TGIF Gathering!

Bring your ideas for making America bitter – oops - better! Three Magnets Brewery 600 Franklin St. Olympia.

March 15 7-8:30pm

New Member Orientation Gathering in NE Olympia These small, informal gatherings of new members are a wonderful way to connect with fellow members, leadership, and *great* cookies. You'll hear how we Do what We Do, where we've been, where we're going, etc. We also want to get to know *you* better, so this is a chance to share your feedback with us! Location furnished upon registration at olyindinmorsvp@gmail.com