CALL TO ACTION – JULY 22

VOTE TWICE THIS WEEK!
OpaVote: We have an OpaVote ballot out to members with four races for OI to consider for endorsement. These are in addition to the first round of endorsements we did. There are only three days left to complete your ballot in this endorsement vote.

Primaries: Ballots went out this week and you should have received yours by now. Primaries tend to have low turnouts, so your vote is even more powerful than usual. Voter today!

SAVE OUR DEMOCRACY

TRUMP MUST PUT AMERICA FIRST, NOT RUSSIA FIRST

Russiagate:
The question of Trump's patriotism is a bigger mystery this week than ever before, in light of the events in Helsinki, Finland this past Monday. After Trump clearly and forcefully took the word of Vladimir Putin over that of his own security agencies, he reversed himself the next day, saying he "wouldn't". That lasted mere seconds at which point he clarified, "I accept our intelligence community’s conclusion that meddling took place," then added, "Could have been other people also. There’s a lot of people out there." So there you go.

Two days ago, Denny Heck, speaking in Flint MI. said “Congressional Republicans are complicit at every turn, Congressional Republicans are in desperate need of an intervention for their addiction to Donald Trump. They need to get over it. They need to stand up for America — they need to put country over party — because our country is in fact, being attacked by Russia.”

We agree. Following Rep. Heck’s leadership we need to ask our Senators to speak up and more importantly to call Republican leadership and hold them accountable for choosing to align with Trump and the Russians over America.

Call our Senators: Senator Maria Cantwell (253)572-2281 Senator Patty Murray (253)572-3636 and ask them to take a forceful stand in calling out Republicans for choosing Trump over America, just as Rep. Heck has done.

Call Denny Heck and tell him well done - keep it up. 253-533-8332

Script for Republican Leadership:

My name is ____________, and I am calling to express my outrage that you would continue to support President Trump and his favoring Putin over US security agencies. Trump is a traitor. I believe in America first not Russia
I demand that you, as an elected official also STAND with AMERICA and Americans, not a treasonous president.

Note: It will be more effective if you are ambiguous about your home state and district. This is in respect to Republicans and the techniques they have employed over the years.

Republican leadership:

Senate
Mitch McConnell 202-224-2541
Sen. Orin Hatch: 202-224-5251
Sen. Bob Corker: 202-224-3344
Sen. John Thune: 202-224-2321
Sen. Roy Blunt: 202-224-5721
Sen. John Barrasso 202-224-6441

House
Paul Ryan 202-225-3031

IMMIGRATION – KEEP FIGHTING

PRAMILA JAYAPAL: "This is something that was inflicted on this child by the government, and really is nothing less than government-sanctioned child abuse."


Pramila Jayapal, 7th District Washington congressman, visited the Ursula Processing Center in McAllen Texas. There along with 6 other congressmen found that the families are still being separated from each other in the facility. Allowing maybe an hour a day for families to visit. All are still being housed in cages in the building, separated by ages, 0-10, 10-15. and above in different sections. The court ordered reunification for all families is this Thursday. Currently according to US government sources there are 450 children reunified with their families out of the nearly 3000 separated from their parents at the border. There are remaining 1606 parents eligible for reunification, 908 parents not expected to be eligible and 863 parents have final deportation orders. CBP, ICE and HHS are still deciding if the separated children will be going back to their parents. This is nothing less than government sanctioned violence and child abuse imposed by the Trump Administration from the zero-tolerance policy.

ACTION: Ask our MoC’s in the strongest terms how are they going to speak out against these crimes against innocence children only seeking a better life from the violence of their home countries. Ask the Trump Administration what is their plan for reunification of the separated families and VOTE in November.
Support Action by the Washington State Conservation Commission

The investigation of the Thurston Conservation District is complete, and the final report recommends the removal of the board’s chairman, Eric Johnson and the auditor, Richard Mankamyer. The Washington State Conservation Commission has the authority to remove local board members for neglect of duty or malfeasance in office. The findings of the investigation indicate that Johnson and Mankamyer failed to respond to a public records request, delayed or refused to sign district checks, and prevented the release of board meeting minutes to the public. In addition, Johnson used his position on the board to get $42,296 for the installation of a manure transfer system on his dairy farm.

Following 30 days for Johnson and Mankamyer to respond to the report, the Washington Conservation Commission will decide if there will be a public hearing on the removal of the local board members. https://www.theolympian.com/news/local/article215265710.html

**ACTION:** Call the Washington Conservation Commission to request a public hearing on the removal of the local board members. (360) 407-6200

Script:

My name is ____________, and I am a member of Olympia Indivisible. I am calling to ask the Conservation Commission to hold a public hearing on the removal of two board members of the Thurston Conservation District. I support the removal of these board members, and it is important for members of the public to learn more facts related to this action. Thank you.

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IS IT TIME TO DUMP THE ELECTORAL COLLEGE?

With election season coming up, the Action Team is considering some of the systemic problems that undermine our country's democratic values. We saw one of these systemic problems writ large in the 2016 election: the Electoral College. Because of this system, Donald J. Trump was able to squeak into the White House, despite being the second-place vote-getter with only 46% of the total vote. In the first 200 years of our country's existence, a result like this occurred only twice (1876, 1888). In the past five elections, it has happened just as many times. Can you imagine getting a Donald Trump or a George W. Bush in 40% of all elections going forward? What's more, the conditions that tend to produce this result are not improving; they're getting worse. Despite our president's low and decreasing popularity, it is still easy to conceive of a scenario where he could exploit the Electoral College to win again in 2020.

In short, the stakes are high, and they'll only get higher as we approach the 2020 Census, which could result in Electoral Votes being redistributed to even further disadvantage progressives in our nation. It's a problem that will continue to hamper our fight for progress even when we have a progressive in the White House. So what we want to know from you, Olympia Indivisible, is whether this is an issue you would like to see our organization taking on.

**ACTION:** Email the team at indivisible.action.oly@gmail.com and let us know your thoughts.

In the meantime, if you want to take action on this issue right now, there are plenty of things you can do from the comfort of your own home:

Contact Eric Holder and ask him to make a National Popular Vote a plank of his fight for Restoring Our Democracy: 1 (202) 662-6000. Please note this is Mr. Holder's office number at the legal firm Covington, in Washington D.C. (https://www.cov.com/en/professionals/h/eric-holder)

Support National Popular Vote, an organization dedicated to establishing just that: https://www.nationalpopularvote.com/

Call the members of the Ohio House of Representatives’ Government Accountability and Oversight Committee and urge them to approve HB 25, the National Popular Vote Interstate Compact:
Or, contact the members of the North Carolina Senate's Committee on Rules and Operations and urge them to approve SB 440:  
https://www.ncleg.net/gascripts/Committees/Committees.asp?sAction=ViewCommittee&sActionDetails=Senate%20Standing%20Committees
Or, contact the members of the Pennsylvania General Assembly's Committee on State Government and urge them to approve HB 189:  

Or, just keep yourself informed on this important issue:
The Economist recently wrote about the proportionality problems in the Electoral College and America's electoral system in general:  
CGP Grey is a Youtube channel that frequently addresses electoral problems in America:  
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7wC42HgLA4k

July 27 Friday 6-8:00 pm

**Olympia Indivisible Members TGIF Gathering!**

OI fellowship abounding! **RJ's Gourmet Grill 318 4th Ave E Olympia**

This week's Call to Action brought to you by Mindy Allen, Joni Brill, Josh Haymond, Karen Lichtenstein, and Tom Dyer. Interested in joining our team? Contact indivisibletom@gmail.com.