



## **CALL TO ACTION – JUNE 17**

# **PROTECT OUR QUALITY OF LIFE**

## **IMMIGRATION**

Immigration is still a major topic of concern this week, as the present administration tries to prevent anyone not Norwegian from immigrating to this country. And while the assaults on immigrants are increasing we are focusing on three things.

### **Child Separations:**

The majority of children who have been separated from their parents have not yet been reunited. The court mandated deadline is fast approaching: parents with children under 5 must be reunited by July 10 and parents and all children ages 5 and older, must be reunited by July 26. Apparently, all the white house has managed to do is request an extension. Some parents have already been deported while their children remain in this country; and some children have been deported while their parents are still in custody here in the US

“Critics have also seized on the nation’s immigration court system that requires children — some still in diapers — to have appearances before judges and go through deportation proceedings while separated from their parents. Such children don’t have a right to a court-appointed attorney, and 90 percent of kids without a lawyer are returned to their home countries, according to Kids in Need of Defense, a group that provides legal representation.”  
<http://www.leadertelegram.com/News/Daily-Updates/2018/07/08/div-class-libPageBodyLinebreak-KIDDIE-COURT-div.html>

### **Military Discharging Immigrant Service Members:**

Americans learned this week that the US Military has quietly been discharging members who are legal residents but not citizens. After 911, when it was discovered that intelligence indicating an impending wasn’t translated in time, due to a lack of translators, the military began recruiting in earnest, US residents with language and other skills that would increase security. Those recruits were also offered a path to citizenship. Now, after having served honorably these same recruits are being discharged without explanation.

### **Muslim Ban:**

The Supreme Court ruled against America and in favor of the trump administration in favoring the ban on Muslims from certain countries. The current version, which prevents some (or all) immigrants, refugees, and visa holders from Iran, Libya, North Korea, Somalia, Syria, Venezuela, and Yemen from entering the US, has been in full effect since early December.

Legally, the court’s decision rested on two conclusions. First, it found that indefinitely banning people from particular countries was a lawful use of the president’s power under the Immigration and Nationality Act; and second, that the travel ban did *not* violate the First Amendment by denying freedom of religion to Muslims. The Supreme Court deferred to the executive branch, ruling that if the government can produce a rationale for the policy than it isn’t discriminatory

It seems the only way to reverse this is encourage Congress to take these powers away from a president and pass legislation in which all immigration laws are under the purview of Congress.

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

*Script:* Hi – I am from District 10 and I want \_\_\_\_\_ to continue to support immigrants. It is inhumane to separate children from their parents or to take babies to trial as criminals. Likewise, discharging American service members who enlisted in good faith and have been serving honorably is not only unethical it is a breach of contract. Discriminating against our Muslim immigrants is a violation of one of our founding tenants. Please remind your republican colleagues that we are a nation of immigrants, we built this country together “with liberty and justice for all”.

## SCOTUS NOMINEE

Monday night Trump has scheduled to name his nomination for the Supreme Court whom was hand picked from the Federalist Society. Any of these nominations will take the court distinctly to the right and have the potential of changing settled laws. Along with the Supreme court, Trump has nominated other Federal lifetime judgeship positions. The following nominees need a NO vote David Porter, Britt Grant, A Marvin Quattlebaum, Mark Norris, Patrick Wyrick, and John Campbell Barker.

Unfortunately, several more of Trump’s extreme nominees have moved forward. This has big ramifications. From civil rights to the environment and beyond, federal judges wield tremendous power to decide issues that affect us all.

Many of Trump’s nominees are unqualified and unfit to be judges. Some have records of extremist views and others are comically ill-equipped to be a judge.

The unfortunate truth is that we don’t have the power to block every single nominee. But there is a lot that senators can do to delay and stop these egregious nominations from moving forward. Here’s what you need to know.

### **Using the national Indivisible playbook Senators Can Use Procedural Tactics To Delay and Block Bad Judges**

For nominees who are still pending, there are ways for senators to pump the brakes.

#### **Judiciary Committee members are especially equipped to resist the bad nominations:**

- Judiciary Committee members must show up to every nomination hearing, ask detailed and thorough questions to expose each nominee’s extremism or lack of qualifications, demand key documents, and insist that they receive answers to each question.
- Members of the Judiciary Committee can also utilize a number of procedural tools in their toolbox when the committee meets for markups, to ensure there is sufficient time to debate and consider the nominees, and to prevent a rushed vote.
- Judiciary Committee members also can and should make strong statements expressing their concerns about the bad nominees each time there is opportunity within the committee’s proceedings.

#### **Even if a senator is not on the Judiciary Committee, there are still things they can do to oppose the nominees:**

- All senators can and should speak out against nominees that are extreme and dangerous. They should use the power of their platform to draw attention to the most egregious nominees and urge their colleagues to oppose them.
- All senators also have the power of the “blue slip” when a judicial nominee is appointed in their state - this is a 100-year-old tradition that historically has given them a veto power if they are concerned about that nominee. [Read here for more information about the blue slip and how the GOP is trying to chip away at this power.](#) Senators should refuse to return blue slips for unqualified and extremist judges nominated to their home state.
- And, of course, all senators should vote against the dangerous nominees.

**ACTION:** Call: Senator Maria Cantwell (253)572-2281, Senator Patty Murray (253)572-3636.

**Caller:** Hi, my name is [name] and I'm a constituent calling from [part of state]. I'm calling about Trump's terrible judicial nominees. I'm alarmed by the quantity of unqualified and ideologically extreme nominees that the Trump administration has put forward. I want to ask Senator [name] to do everything in [his/her] power to block these nominees. We need more time for senators to fully vet these nominees and to stop them from going forward if they are not qualified. We need the senator to vociferously oppose any nomination for the Supreme Court that was vetted by the Federalist Society.

**Staffer:** Thank you for calling and sharing your concerns. The Senator will weigh all the options and carefully consider each nominee as they come forward.

**Caller:** Great. I'd like to specifically get the Senator's promise that [he/she] will do everything possible to delay or stop nominations of extreme and unqualified judges.

**Staffer:** I'll convey that to the Senator.

**Caller:** Thank you, I'll be closely watching [his/her] actions on this. It's imperative to take more time to vet these nominees and not let them get rammed through the confirmation process.

## SAVE THE ACA

The Trump administration chips away, again, at the ACA on Saturday. They are suspending a program that pays billions of dollars to insurers to stabilize health insurance markets. The "risk adjustment" payments are used to reduce the incentives for insurers to seek out only healthy consumers. Their action will increase premiums and result in fewer health plan choices, mostly the clients that need insurance the most.

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

Script: I am from (\_\_\_) and I strongly object to the Trumps administration stopping the risk adjustment payment program to the ACA insurance market. What can you do to object to this continuation of the dismantling of the ACA? This action will destabilize the premiums of all those in need of coverage through the ACA.

## READY FOR MORE?

### Americans of Conscience Checklist Week of July 8, 2018

[https://docs.google.com/document/d/1obCyoW9\\_3h9d0rHWJsLxr911\\_NAgCVLfrN80YFG7Hpl/preview](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1obCyoW9_3h9d0rHWJsLxr911_NAgCVLfrN80YFG7Hpl/preview)

## COMING SOON

July 13 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 and Tom Dyer. Interested in joining our team? Contact [indivisibletom@gmail.com](mailto:indivisibletom@gmail.com).