Olympia Indivisible Members attending: Mindy Allen, John Flory, Kris Flory, and Carla Wulfsberg

Agenda:
1. Introduction of Olympia Indivisible delegation
2. Rosa McLeod, introduction

THANK YOUs

Health Care/Health Protection for Workers

• Thank you for joining the bipartisan effort to extend critical funding for Community Health Care Centers before the end of the month deadline. Washington State has 27 community health centers that serve more than 1 million of our state’s most vulnerable individuals at more than 250 sites across the state. “Without the extension of the CHCF community health center will lose 70% of their funding, wrote the Senators. “(9/20/17 Cantwell Press Release)

• Thank you for your hard work to protect the ACA and your vote to defeat the Graham-Cassidy bill.

• Thank you for your work with Senator Murray to secure the reauthorization of the Advisory Board on Toxic Substances and Worker Health as an amendment to the Fiscal Year 2018 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA). Senator Cantwell: “This program protects current and former Hanford employees who operate in extremely hazardous conditions. The amendment that Senator Murray and I were able to include will ensure we keep our commitment to protect and support all of the nation’s workers employed in the nuclear weapons industry.” (9/18/17 Cantwell Press Release)
Thank you for launching the Democratic opposition to Ajit Pai’s re-confirmation as Chairman of the FCC. You delivered a powerful speech to the President in which you criticized Pai’s attempt to eliminate net neutrality rules by deregulating the broadband industry. You said Pai “is moving the agency away from its key mission to promote the use and deployment of communications in the public interest.” (Rational Review News Digest 9/28/17, The Register 9/29/17, You Tube Video 9/27)

Thank you for speaking out to the Senate Finance Committee hearing for the Graham-Cassidy health care hearing in which you first addressed the humanitarian crisis in Puerto Rico. You called for an immediate “federal FEMA declaration for every county in Puerto Rico” and you asked that “the White House appoint a Lead, a Czar, to coordinate all agencies “in support efforts. ((/26/17 – You Tube video, Cantwell press release 9/29/17)

Thank you for your support of DACA recipients and the letter of Sept. 25 you signed with 37 Senators to Elaine Duke, Acting Secretary of Homeland Security, asking to extend the current Oct. 5, 2017 deadline for individuals to submit applications for renewals under DACA. (Letter of 9/25/17 – Cantwell Press Release)

Thank you for speaking out against Secretary Zinke’s use of private flights to the Virgin Islands and other locations that were funded by taxpayer dollars -- and asking for taxpayers to get answers about this. (9/29/17 Cantwell Press Release)

Thank you for speaking out against Secretary Zinke’s attacks on federal employees in the Department of the Interior, “Secretary Zinke’s comments yesterday betray a fundamental misunderstanding of the role of federal civil service. They are non-political employees charged with implementing and enforcing laws passed by Congress . . .”(10/2/17 Washington Examiner) “The public servants at the DoI deserve respect from the man charged with leading them – not cheap shots in the press. Replacing them with purely political people who will not protect our public land or protect taxpayers from special interest sweetheart deals.” (9/26/17 Cantwell Press Release)
(Thank Yous, cont.)

Protecting/Restoring Our Environment/Technology

• Thank you for your support of energy conservation and the award of a $1 million grant to Kitsap Transit to replace its diesel buses with cleaner, battery-electric vehicles. (9/15/17 Cantwell Press Release)

• Thank you for joining with 8 senators to introduce an updated bipartisan version of a funding solution to the Wildfire Disaster Funding Act of 2017 that reforms how the federal government funds wildfires. You stated that “The bill we are introducing today will stop the fire-borrowing that is currently crippling the Forest Service.” (Press release 9/20/17 – Cantwell)

• Thank you for co-sponsoring a bipartisan provision to the National Defense Authorization Act (S. 1519) that bolsters environmental restoration funding for the both the US Air Force and US Navy. This dedicates nearly $62 million towards water remediation and environmental restoration in communities that have suffered groundwater contamination due to their proximity to military installations, include three in Washington State. (Citizen Tribune, 9/28/17)

• Thank you for introducing legislation to increase funding for local governments to replace outdated infrastructure with smart technologies. “The bill makes technologies available to local governments so they can make smart investments that attract businesses, create jobs. . .”- Senator Cantwell. (State Scoop, 10/2/17)

Protecting National Security

• Thank you for joining with seven Senate national security Ranking Members to write to senior Trump Administration officials reminding them of their legal obligations to report to Congress on potential Iranian breaches of Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA), as mandated by the Iran Nuclear Agreement Review Act (NARA) of 2015. (VT Digger (Vermont) 9/20/17)
ASKS

Health Care
• Please continue your support of CHIP to restore its funding. We know you have worked hard on the Children’s Health Insurance Program which provided low-cost health insurance to 9 million children. But, Congress let it expire on September 30. (The Washington Post 10/1/17)

• Please continue your hard work to help stabilize the health insurance market which relates to the budget.

Protecting Our Quality of Life/National Security
• Please oppose the new version of Trump’s unconstitutional ban on Muslims which adds two new non-Muslim-majority countries on the list.

• Please oppose Trump’s slashing the number of refugees admitted to the U. S.

• Please continue to speak out against Trump’s threats to North Korea—we do not want a war with North Korea. Trump is NOT diffusing the situation but making it worse.

• Please oppose any spending cuts to the US State Department, and speak out to this Administration, especially the State Department, to resolve the North Korea matter through diplomacy.

Budget/Financial
The federal government needs more revenue at this time – not less. We need funds for disaster relief efforts – hurricanes in Texas, Florida, and Puerto Rico, fires in the West. We do not support tax cuts for the wealthy!
• Please oppose the Republican tax plan that would repeal the ACA’s taxes on high-income earners. These taxes only apply to income above $200,000. Only Americans with incomes above $200,000 will benefit. These taxes will support critical services. Without these taxes there will be deep cuts to Medicaid, Medicare, and Social Security.
• Please oppose the Republican tax plan which also repeals the Alternative Minimum Tax so the wealthy can once again exploit the tax code and pay little or no tax at all.

• Please oppose SJR 47 – the nullification of a new Consumer Financial Protection Bureau rule which would protect financial companies from class action lawsuits. This was introduced on July 20 and 31 co-sponsors who are all Republicans.

(ASKS, cont.)

Environment
• We still have serious concerns about S.1460, the Energy and Natural Resources Act of 2017. We see that it had a hearing on Sept. 19 by the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources but we don’t know the content of that hearing. We know that included in this huge bill is an expansion of the authority of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, promotes fracking and fossil fuel extraction. We also know you have been a long-time supporter of clean energy, so we ask that you do your best to eliminate the fossil fuel extraction from this bill. A Washington State Dept of Ecology report on carbon pollution in our state explains that transportation accounted for 43 % of greenhouse gas emissions in our state in 2014.

Schedule next meeting: Tuesday, October 31.

Take Photo.