

PATTY MURRAY'S WASHINGTON VIEW

U.S. Senator Patty Murray's Weekly Report to the People of Washington – June 8, 2007

Immigration: Washington State Still Needs Smart, Tough, and Fair Reform

On Thursday, a comprehensive immigration bill that was being debated in the Senate was pulled from consideration after failing two procedural votes. I issued this statement on the need for comprehensive immigration reform following that action.

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Stem Cells: A Personal Plea for President Bush to Sign Stem Cell Legislation

On Thursday, as the United States Congress sent President Bush stem cell legislation that provides hope to Americans with debilitating diseases, I delivered a speech on the Senate floor calling on the President to sign the legislation. In my speech, I discussed my father's physical deterioration at the hands of Multiple Sclerosis and the hardships it caused my family. I talked about my family's hope for a cure then, and the hopes of millions of families today who are desperately seeking the promise of stem cells.

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Affordable Housing: Honoring Exceptional Seattle Affordable Housing Properties

On Wednesday, I helped recognize two affordable housing properties in Seattle at the 13th Annual Charles L. Edson Tax Credit Excellence Awards. The awards, which are sponsored by the Affordable Housing Tax Credit Coalition, honor the best and brightest in Housing Credit development. This year, out of 48 entries in 28 states, two Seattle properties were selected as honorable mention winners. The Seattle low-income housing properties honored were the Genesee Apartments in South Seattle and the Broadway Crossing building, which is at the intersection of the Pike/Pine neighborhood and Broadway's business district.

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Electric Bills: Urging BPA and Utilities to Come Together to Preserve Affordable Power

I have joined with five other Senators from the Northwest region to call on the Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) to lead the effort in coming to a regional solution to share the benefits of the Federal Columbia River Power System. BPA should bring all stakeholders together to resolve issues resulting from a recent 9th Circuit Court of Appeals ruling. That ruling has resulted in higher electric bills for many Northwest consumers.

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