

PATTY MURRAY'S WASHINGTON VIEW

U.S. Senator Patty Murray's Weekly Report to the People of Washington – August 14, 2007

Healthcare: Protecting Washington State's Uninsured Children

On Friday (8/3), I helped the Senate pass a bill that will strengthen and expand the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP). CHIP provides insurance for more than 11,000 Washington state children whose parents would otherwise be unable to afford coverage for them.

[Details](#)

[Watch](#) | [Read](#) a speech I delivered supporting CHIP in which I discussed the story of a **Yakima youth**

On Monday (8/6), I stood with doctors and families at Seattle's Odessa Brown Children's Clinic to urge the President to withdraw his veto threat and support the children's healthcare legislation

Education: Investing in the Math Skills our Kids Need to Compete

On Friday (8/3), the Senate passed my proposal to increase our investment in math education in high schools. The proposal will help make America more competitive in the global marketplace. My "Math Skills" initiative was included in the "America COMPETES Act," which passed the full Senate last Tuesday (8/1).

[Details](#)

Asbestos: Murray's Asbestos Bill Passes Key Committee with Unanimous, Bipartisan Support

On Tuesday (7/31), my landmark bill to protect Americans from deadly asbestos passed the full Senate Environment and Public Works Committee (EPW) with unanimous, bipartisan support. My bill would ban asbestos, invest in research and treatment, and launch a public education campaign. A companion bill has been introduced in the House of Representatives by Rep. Betty McCullum of Minnesota. It is H.R. 3339.

[Details](#)

["Murray's asbestos bill advances"](#) – Seattle PI

AROUND THE STATE

I am currently traveling across our state to highlight community projects, listen to your concerns, and celebrate successes we have had in bringing federal investment to our state. Here is a look at a few of the events I have taken part in across our state over the last week.

Vancouver: Reducing Congestion at the Port of Vancouver

On Tuesday (8/7), I visited the Port of Vancouver to break ground on the first part of the Port of Vancouver's freight access project. I have helped to secure \$3.3 million for this critical project that will bring new rail access to the port and enhance the port's internal rail system. Recently, I also included an additional \$2 million in a Senate spending bill for this project.

[Details](#)

["Murray delivers payload to port"](#) – The Columbian

Spokane: New Tower will make Air Travel Safer and More Efficient

On Thursday (8/9), I helped dedicate a brand new air traffic control tower at Spokane Airport that will improve the controllers' lines of sight, allow for increased flight capacity, and give the airport the new technology it needs. In the Senate I have secured more than \$16 million in funding for this project.

["FAA dedicates new control tower"](#) – Spokesman Review

Homeless Vets: Ensuring the Needs of Our Forgotten Heroes are Met

On Tuesday (8/7), I visited a transitional housing facility at the VA Medical Center campus in Vancouver to ensure that the needs of homeless veterans are being met.

["Homeless vets topic of panel"](#) – The Columbian

Boeing: Standing with Washington State Aerospace Workers

On Monday (8/5), I attended a rally at the Boeing Company in Everett to voice my support for building the Air Force's new refueling tanker here in Washington state. I reiterated to the crowd my belief that Boeing's KC-767 is the right plane for the Air Force's mission, and that the workers of Washington state are up to the task of delivering a superior product.

["Boeing touts KC-767, hoping to win back Air Force contract"](#) – AP