

PATTY MURRAY'S WASHINGTON VIEW

U.S. Senator Patty Murray's Weekly Report to the People of Washington – November 19, 2007

Veterans: Shocking News Report Reveals Frequency of Veterans Suicides

On Wednesday (11/14), I spoke on the Senate floor in response to a sad and shocking CBS News report that revealed new figures on the number of veterans who have committed suicide. CBS News' five-month investigation into veteran suicides found that at least 120 Americans who served in the U.S. military killed themselves every week in 2005. **That's at least 6,256 veteran suicides in one year – a rate twice that of other Americans.**

[Details](#)

[Video](#) - the report

[Video](#) – I discuss this important issue.

[Learn](#) more about how you can help our troops and veterans.

["Epidemic" of military suicides investigated](#) – The Seattle Times

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Transportation: On the Eve of the Busiest Travel Weekend of the Year, Vital Funding Blocked

On Thursday (11/15), Senate Republicans in a show of loyalty to President Bush blocked a bill that provides funding for transportation safety improvements, air traffic control system modernization, housing for veterans, support for struggling homeowners and much more. As Chair of the Senate Subcommittee that crafts this critical bill, I am very disappointed that Republicans have chosen to obstruct these critical efforts to provide for pressing domestic needs.

[Details](#)

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Head Start: Senate Strengthens Important Early Childhood Education Program

On Wednesday (11/14), the Senate helped pass the final version of the Head Start for School Readiness Act that improves Head Start - the vital early childhood development program that gives disadvantaged children a leg up at school. The Head Start reauthorization bill builds on the program's success by ensuring accountability, increasing access, expanding services, and incorporating parents as well as child and family agencies into the program's decision-making process.

[Details](#)

[Video](#) - I discuss this important vote.

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WA Health, Labor, and Education: Bush Vetoes Nearly \$8 Million for our State

On Tuesday (11/13), President Bush vetoed a critical spending bill that included funding for health, education, and labor projects throughout Washington state.

[View](#) the projects the President vetoed funding for in your area.

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Housing Crises: Working to Help Struggling Homeowners

On Thursday (11/15), I held a press conference with other members of the Senate leadership to discuss the nation's growing sub-prime mortgage and foreclosure crisis and our efforts to address it.

[Details](#)

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Labor: OSHA Rules that Employers Must pay for Safety Equipment

On Thursday (11/15), the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) finally ruled that employers must pay for workers' safety equipment. After the rule was announced, I joined with Senator Edward Kennedy (D-MA) to respond to this long-overdue action.

[Details](#)

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