

PATTY MURRAY'S WASHINGTON VIEW

U.S. Senator Patty Murray's Weekly Report to the People of Washington – July 3rd, 2008

A New GI Bill for a New Generation of Heroes

Last week, I joined with many of my colleagues to pass a landmark new GI Bill to improve education benefits for troops and veterans who have served this country since September 11, 2001. The bill was signed into law by the President early this week. Passing the GI bill is a huge victory for our veterans and a good step towards fulfilling our nation's promise to honoring their sacrifice. - [Details](#)

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Women Veterans: Bill to Prepare the VA for Women Veterans Passes Major Hurdle

Last Thursday (6/26), my legislation to improve care for women veterans at the Department of Veterans' Affairs (VA) passed the Senate Veterans Affairs Committee. The legislation addresses many of the unique needs of female veterans by authorizing programs to improve care for Military Sexual Trauma (MST), increase research on the current barriers to care, and expand women veterans staff positions at the VA.

[Details](#) | [Audio](#)

["Senate panel approves bill to improve VA care for female vets"](#) – McClatchy

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Tankers: Time for the Air Force to Conduct a Truly Fair Bidding Process

Last Thursday (6/26), I delivered a speech on the Senate floor after the Government Accountability Office (GAO) issued a scathing decision that found that the Air Force's decision to award a contract for aerial refueling tankers was riddled with problems. The GAO decision found that the Air Force significantly overestimated the cost of Boeing's tanker, misled Boeing, and that the Air Force selected Airbus even though the company failed to meet key requirements of the contract. In my speech I called on the Air Force to follow the recommendations the GAO of and re-bid the contract. - [Details](#) | [Video](#)

["14,167 words on Boeing's behalf"](#) – Everett Herald

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Investing in Our State's Needs: Working to Bring Funding for Health Care, Education, Law Enforcement, and Job Training to Communities in our State

Over the last two weeks, I have been proud to announce federal funding for projects that I worked to include in two critical Senate spending bills. As a senior member of the Senate Appropriations Committee, I work hard to ensure that the needs of our communities have a voice in Washington, D.C.

To view some of the projects I worked to include in these bills, click on your area below.

Commerce and Law Enforcement Projects

[Statewide](#) – Salmon Restoration

[Statewide](#) – Fighting Meth

[Southwest Washington](#) – Supporting the Vancouver Police Department

[Spokane](#) – Law Enforcement Communication Network

[Northwest Washington](#) – Preparing for the 2010 Olympics

[Northwest Washington](#) – Marine Habitat Restoration

[Hanford](#) – Funding Critical Scientific Research

[Pierce County](#) – Addressing Gang Violence

[Pierce County](#) – Bringing Resources to Pierce County to Fight Meth

Health, Education, and Workforce Projects

[Statewide](#) – Building a Skilled Workforce

[Southwest Washington](#) – Training More Educators

[Olympia](#) – Healthcare Priorities

[Peninsula](#) – Olympic Medical Center and Peninsula College

[Spokane](#) – WSU Nursing School and Community Colleges of Spokane

[Tri-Cities](#) – New Pediatric Center

[King County](#) – Healthcare, Workforce and Education Priorities

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