

PATTY MURRAY'S WASHINGTON VIEW

U.S. Senator Patty Murray's Weekly Report to the People of Washington – December 1, 2008

Economy: A Stimulus that Gets Our Economy Back on Track, Creates Jobs

On November 19, I delivered a speech on the Senate floor calling on Congress to unite behind an economic stimulus proposal that will create jobs, invest in transportation and green technology, and help families by expanding unemployment and housing assistance. With unemployment rising and more and more Washington state families hurting, we have to move forward with a bold proposal that will get Washington state residents back to work and get our economy back on track.

[Details](#) - [Listen](#) to my speech

Discussing Steps to Boost Our Economy, Consumer Confidence

I also discussed potential economic stimulus measures and steps that can be taken to increase consumer confidence with a group of prominent economists.

- [Details](#) - [Listen](#) to the discussion.

Extending Unemployment Benefits

I helped to pass a bill that will extend unemployment assistance for as long as 13 weeks, delivering much-needed help to many families in our state. - [Details](#)

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A Major Victory for Walla Walla Veterans

On November 20, I was pleased to announce that the Jonathan M. Wainwright Memorial VA Medical Center in Walla Walla will receive \$71.4 million in federal funding for a brand new outpatient clinic. This is great news for the nearly 70,000 veterans from southeast Washington, northern Oregon, and Idaho who rely on Walla Walla for their care. Over the last five years, I have worked hand-in-hand with these veterans to save the Walla Walla VA Medical Center and to ensure that it has a future. - [Details](#)

["Walla Walla to get \\$71 million renovation"](#) – Associated Press

["A veterans hospital saved"](#) – Seattle PI

[More news](#) on recent veterans' issues

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A Seat at the Table for Washington State

On November 18, I was re-elected to serve as part of the Democratic leadership team in the next Congress. In this role, I will have the opportunity to ensure the issues that Washington state families care most about are on the agenda in Washington D.C. The position will also allow me the opportunity to work closely with President-elect Obama to help deliver the change that so many Americans have called for. - [Details](#)

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Hanford : Compensation for Ill Workers

On November 19, I asked the GAO to conduct an investigation into the program that provides compensation to Hanford and Pacific Northwest National Laboratory workers who have become ill as a result of radiation or chemical exposure. - [Details](#)