

PATTY MURRAY'S WASHINGTON VIEW

U.S. Senator Patty Murray's Weekly Report to the People of Washington – May 25, 2007

Iraq: Providing Funding for Troops in Harm's Way, Veterans, Farmers, Katrina Relief, and Port Security

On Thursday, I supported funding for the resources and equipment needed to protect American troops currently in Iraq and for critical domestic funding for veterans, farmers, Hurricane Katrina relief, and port security. The funding is included in the Fiscal Year 2007 Emergency Supplemental Appropriation's bill.

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Wild Sky: Finish Line is in Sight for Wild Sky Wilderness Area

On Wednesday, I applauded the Senate Energy and Resources Committee's passage of my Wild Sky Wilderness legislation. The Wild Sky bill designates 106,577 acres of national forest in east Snohomish County as wilderness. Wednesday's committee action means that the bill, which was passed in the House of Representatives on April 17th, now moves to the Senate floor for a final vote before going to the President.

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[Wild Sky bill passes key committee](#) – Seattle PI

Vancouver: Working to Bring a Federal Court to Vancouver

On Thursday, I joined Congressman Brian Baird (WA-03) to introduce legislation in the House and Senate that is the first step to bringing a U.S. district courthouse to Vancouver, WA. The legislation will add Vancouver to the list of locations where court in the Western District of Washington can be held.

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[Congress considers court in Vancouver](#) – The Columbian

Mine Safety: Is the New Mine Safety Law Working?

On Tuesday, I chaired a hearing to examine the implementation of safety measures established under the MINER Act. The MINER Act is the landmark legislation which established guidelines for mine emergency response plans, training, post-accident communications and safety inspections.

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Veterans: Bellingham Iraq War Veteran Helps to Improve Care for Wounded Warriors

On Wednesday, I met with a Bellingham Iraq War veteran who is assisting the President's Commission on Care for America's Returning Wounded Warriors. The veteran, Construction Mechanic 2nd Class Michael Christensen of the Naval Construction Battalion, was recognized at a hearing of the Senate Veterans' Affairs Committee. I thanked him for his continued service to our country.

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[Serviceman on commission](#) – The Bellingham Herald

Norm Maleng: The Loss of a Great Statesman

Seattle, King County, and the entire Pacific Northwest have lost a fine statesman in the passing of Norm Maleng on Thursday. My thoughts and prayers are with his family and friends during this difficult time. Norm was a role model for all of us. He treated everyone equally and fairly. He approached every case and every challenge with wisdom and dignity. His voice will be missed. For me, he will always be the King County Prosecutor.

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[Longtime prosecutor Norm Maleng dies](#) – The Seattle Times