

PATTY MURRAY'S WASHINGTON VIEW

U.S. Senator Patty Murray's Weekly Report to the People of Washington – March 30, 2007

IRAQ: Senate Votes to Begin Redeployment from Iraq



On Thursday, the Senate passed a Supplemental spending bill that calls for the President to start redeploying troops from Iraq within 120 days and sets the goal of having most U.S. troops out of Iraq by March 31, 2008. The President has said he'll veto the bill.

Details: <http://murray.senate.gov/news.cfm?id=271627>

Watch: <http://murray.senate.gov/video/070329-supp.ram>

[Watch the Speech](#)

Veterans: Mother of WA State Soldier Testifies on Son's Treatment at Hearing



On Tuesday, I welcomed Denise Mettie of Selah, Washington to the Veterans' Affairs Committee. Her son, retired Army Specialist Evan Mettie, suffered a severe Traumatic Brain Injury in Iraq. Denise testified on the care she has sought for Evan. [Details](#) | [Watch](#)

Here's a local news report by KNDO TV (Yakima): [News Story](#)

[Watch Denise's Testimony](#)

Rural Counties: "Secure Rural Schools Act" Extended . . . And Fully Funded!

This week I helped pass a measure that will keep forest communities from losing irreplaceable County Payment funds for schools, roads, and basic services. The 5-year extension bill will double funding to Washington counties. Details: <http://murray.senate.gov/news.cfm?id=271544>

Injured Veterans: More Help Passes Senate



This week the Senate passed a dramatic increase in funding for injured service members and veterans. The \$4 billion increase will:

- treat mental health care and Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI),
- repair VA and Pentagon facilities,
- and hire more claims processors to eliminate long waiting lines for benefits. [Details](#)

Washington Post Radio Interview: Listen to my discussion about Walter Reed and Veterans Healthcare: <http://murray.senate.gov/video/070329-wpvets.mp3>

Washington Post: "Patty Murray, No Newcomer to Advocating for Veterans" 3/29/07
<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2007/03/28/AR2007032802084.html>

Flood Recovery - \$35 Million for Repairs Passes Senate

Our state will get \$35.9 million to repair roads damaged in last year's record floods. Details: <http://murray.senate.gov/news.cfm?id=271291>

Port Security: Funding Passes Senate

The Senate passed \$295 million to speed implementation of my SAFE Ports Act. This funding will support cargo screening overseas, hire new Customs officers, establish new security measures across the country, and fully-fund Port Security Grants. [Details](#)