

PATTY MURRAY'S WASHINGTON VIEW

U.S. Senator Patty Murray's Weekly Report to the People of Washington – March 27, 2007

BUDGET: Finally, A Budget That Reflects the Priorities of American Families

This week, I helped to pass the Senate budget resolution for Fiscal Year 2008 that invests in key priorities including education, healthcare, port security and veterans. The budget resolution sets the spending priorities for the coming fiscal year. [Details](#) | [Read floor speech](#)

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VETERANS: VA "Audit" Results Unacceptable

On Tuesday, I was angered by the results of an internal audit of the conditions at VA facilities across the country. [Details](#)

Spokesman Review: [Murray: Conditions 'unconscionable'](#)

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VETERANS: Ensuring Madigan Troops Get Proper Care

On Wednesday, I joined with other members of the Washington state delegation to call on Army officials to heed our concerns on the care of soldiers at Madigan Army Medical Center at Ft. Lewis.

Tacoma News Tribune: [Pressure mounts on Madigan Team finishes inspection, interviews at Madigan](#)

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EASTERN WASHINGTON: Fighting for Rescue Helicopters at Fairchild

On Wednesday, I questioned Air Force Secretary Michael Wynne about plans to remove the 36th Rescue Flight from Fairchild Air Force Base. During questioning, Secretary Wynne told me that the Air Force had not paid enough attention to how the helicopters contribute to the broader community and that the Army is reconsidering eliminating the rescue squad. [Details](#)

Spokesman Review: [Fairchild copters may be rescued](#)

HANFORD: Probing Critical Clean Up Funding

On Wednesday, I questioned Dr. Raymond Orbach - a high-ranking DOE official in charge of the Hanford 300 Area replacement project. I am concerned that the administration has been dragging its feet on funding this critical project. [Details](#)

Tri-City Herald: [Murray asks DOE for funding answers](#)

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EDUCATION: Improving Adolescent Literacy

On Thursday, I joined with Senator Jeff Sessions of Alabama to introduce the Striving Readers Act, a bipartisan bill to improve adolescent literacy. [Details](#)

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LEWIS AND CLARK: Helping to Safeguard Station Camp State Park

On Wednesday, I applauded the announcement of \$2.5 million in federal funding to preserve Lewis and Clark's historically important Station Camp site. I have been an advocate of funding this project in the U.S. Senate for many years. [Details](#)

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U.S. ATTORNEYS: Restoring the Senate's Role in Confirming U.S. Attorneys

On Tuesday, I voted to pass legislation that restores the Senate's ability to confirm U.S. Attorneys. The legislation comes on the heels of the scandal surrounding the firing of eight U.S. Attorneys by the Bush Administration. [Details](#)