

# PATTY MURRAY'S WASHINGTON VIEW

U.S. Senator Patty Murray's Weekly Report to the People of Washington – April 22, 2009

## Financial Literacy: Helping Our Students Make Smart Financial Decisions

I spent last week traveling around our state, meeting with students, teachers, and area financial leaders to talk about the importance of financial decision making. The current economic crisis has highlighted the need to teach responsible budgeting at an early age. It has also highlighted the need for adults in our state and nation to become more financially literate.

That is why I have introduced the [Financial and Economic Literacy Improvement Act of 2009](#) in the Senate. My bill will provide \$250 million in grants to support teaching financial literacy to students and adults in K-12 and 2- and 4-year colleges. – [More](#)

["Financial literacy is a sound investment"](#) – Seattle Times



Lynnwood

Lynnwood financial education teacher Don Ide talks to his students about the vast amount of fine print on many financial contracts when I stopped by last week to discuss my bill.

["Senator Patty Murray Touts 'financial literacy' plan at Lynnwood High School"](#) – The Edmonds Beacon

I met with Western Washington University students Spenser Covich, Jordan Maughan, Simon Trigg, Thomas Evans. Spenser, Jordan, Simon, and Thomas conducted a survey showing the need for financial education on college campuses.



Bellingham

["Fixing this economy through financial education"](#)  
– The Bellingham Herald



Tri-Cities

I discussed my bill at Columbia Basin College in Pasco, WA. Joining me were Columbia Basin College President Richard Cummins and Christina Brown CEO of GESA Community Credit Union.

["Murray sponsors legislation to push financial intelligence"](#) – Tri-City Herald

I also visited Spokane, Tukwila, and Tacoma over the last two weeks to discuss the importance of financial literacy and her important legislation.

## Alpine Lakes: Protecting More of our State's Pristine Wilderness Land

Last week, I also visited an area overlooking land that I am working to protect as part of an expansion of the Alpine Lakes Wilderness Area. My bill, [the Alpine Lakes Wilderness Additions and Pratt and Middle Fork Snoqualmie Rivers Protection Act](#), will expand the Alpine Lakes Wilderness Area by 22,000 square acres and designate the Pratt and Middle Fork Snoqualmie Rivers as wild and scenic. It is co-sponsored by Rep. Dave Reichert in the House of Representatives.

## Shipyard: Dakota Creek Industries Shipyard Tour

Last week I was fortunate enough to be able to take a tour of the Dakota Creek Industries shipyard in Anacortes. I worked to include \$100 million in competitive grants for small shipyards nationwide in the Economic Recovery Act. This funding will help these shipyards with construction and other needed improvements that will benefit local economies.

## Healthcare: The School of Nursing at Washington State University

I was excited to make it back to my alma mater this past week to tour the new facilities at WSU's School of Nursing in Spokane. I'm proud to have secured over \$2 million for these facilities to help train and educate nurses, filling much needed positions in Spokane and across the state. As the baby-boomer generation begins to retire, nurses and healthcare professionals are expected to continue to be in high demand. – [More](#)

["Senator tours new nursing facility"](#) – Spokesman Review

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