

# PATTY MURRAY'S WASHINGTON VIEW

U.S. Senator Patty Murray's Weekly Report to the People of Washington – June 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2009

## **VETERANS: Three Big Steps for Washington State Veterans**

I have been fighting in the Senate to ensure that all our veterans receive the help they need, and I am proud to announce that last week we took three big steps to deliver care and services to more of our veterans.

First, last week the Obama Administration used funding that I worked to appropriate to restore VA access to more than 250,000 Priority 8 veterans. Priority 8 veterans are veterans who were shut out of the VA system in 2003. Since that time, I have worked to help restore access for these veterans because I believe we must fulfill the promise we make to care for every veteran that signs up to serve. - [Details](#) - [Calculate](#) whether you qualify.

Next, I introduced a bill to provide housing assistance to homeless women veterans and homeless veterans with children. This bill will provide a much-needed path to safe and stable housing for women and families across our country who have made tremendous sacrifices. - [Details](#)

Finally, I announced \$3 million in new funding to provide housing vouchers for homeless veterans across Washington state. This funding will mean a home, and the dignity that comes with it, for over 400 veterans and their families this year. - [Details](#)

["Kitsap Receiving Housing Funds for Homeless Veterans"](#) - The Kitsap Sun

["Murray gets \\$262,500 to help local homeless veterans with housing"](#) - The Yakima Herald-Republic

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## **NORTHERN BORDER: A Major Victory for Law Enforcement**

Last week, the Department of Justice announced that they will open grants to Washington state law enforcement through the Northern Border Prosecution Initiative, an initiative that I worked for many years to create. The Northern Border Prosecution Initiative will help to relieve the burden on Northern Border communities that face crushing costs from border-related crime. I am pleased that our local law enforcement will soon be getting the assistance they deserve. - [Details](#)

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## **TANKERS: Demanding Fair Competition in the International Aerospace Industry**

Last week, I wrote to the head of the European Union delegation and spoke on the Senate floor to call for an end to the billions of dollars in unfair subsidies that several European nations are considering handing out to Airbus. These subsidies distort the international market for aerospace products, put American manufacturers at a disadvantage, and threaten American jobs. - [Details](#)

[READ](#) my letter to Ambassador Bruton | [LISTEN](#) to my speech

["Now Boeing's in it to win it"](#) - The Everett Herald

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## **FERRIES, HIGHWAYS AND MORE: LaHood Pledges Support for WA Transportation Efforts**

Last week, I questioned Secretary of Transportation Ray LaHood on a number of issues that are affecting Washington state's transportation system, including inadequate funding for our ferries and highways. Secretary LaHood pledged to support efforts to give our ferry system the resources it needs in the future, and I pushed him on the need for a plan to address the impending bankruptcy of the Highway Trust Fund. - [Details](#) | [WATCH](#) the hearing | [LISTEN](#) to Q&A with Secretary LaHood

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## **RECOVERY: Tracking our State's Funding**

So far, Washington state has received more than \$2.2 billion in funding from the Economic Recovery Act. Last week, I announced additional funding for programs in our state. Click on the links below to learn more about funding awarded to the state this week.

[Supporting Local Transit](#)

[A New Water System for Battle Ground](#)

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