

# ***PATTY MURRAY'S WASHINGTON VIEW***

**U.S. Senator Patty Murray's Weekly Report to the People of Washington – November 5, 2007**

## **Veterans: New Veterans Secretary Nominee Must Be an Advocate for Veterans**

On Tuesday (10/30), President Bush nominated General James Peake to be the next Secretary of Veterans Affairs. General Peake has served our nation honorably in military service for over 40 years and I look forward to hearing his plans to serve our veterans at this critical moment in our nation's history. The burden is on Dr. Peake to prove to veterans around the country that he can be the honest, independent advocate we need to turn the VA around.

[Details](#)

[Watch](#) my comments on this nomination.

[Listen](#) to the Weekly Democratic Radio Address I delivered on Veteran's Care

["Patty Murray becomes voice of veterans care"](#) – Seattle Times

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## **CHIP: Bush Must Stop Blocking Kids' Health Care**

On Wednesday (10/31), the Senate passed a bill for the second time that will strengthen and expand the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) and ensure almost 10 million children will be able to see a doctor. The vote came three months after the Senate approved it the first time. The first version was vetoed by the President last month. I delivered a speech on the Senate floor calling on the President to sign this critical bill.

[Details](#)

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## **Government Waste: Calling on the Department of Education to Account for Overpayments to Lenders**

On Thursday (11/1), I led a group of colleagues in sending a letter to the Department of Education's Inspector General's Office asking for a complete accounting of overpayments received by private student loan lenders through a controversial government program.

[Details](#)

["Democrats want inquiry on 9.5 pct student loans"](#) - Reuters

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## **Aerospace: Boeing is the Right Company for the Job**

On Wednesday (10/31), I delivered a speech at the KC-767 Advanced Tanker Supplier Conference in Washington, D.C., about the importance of giving Boeing the opportunity to build and supply the Air Force's next generation of aerial refueling tankers.

[Details](#)

[Watch](#)

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## **Amtrak: Critical Funding Bill Includes Needs of Our State**

On Tuesday (10/30), the Senate passed legislation that significantly expands funding for Amtrak, the national passenger railroad. I successfully included two provisions in the bill that address delays on the Coast Starlight line which runs between Los Angeles and Seattle, and the need for a strategic plan for cross-border rail service during the 2010 Olympic Games

[Details](#)

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