

Meeting with Sen. Murray's Staffer

At the Federal Bldg., January 14th 2020



We met with Megan Utemei.

January is usually the month the Senate majority set the agenda for the whole year, and there isn't even a schedule for January because they are holding it open for impeachment. They are mostly working on war resolutions and impeachment at the moment.

Iran War:

- Please see press release and clip of Senator Murray's interview with NPR [here](#).
- Senator Murray co-sponsored [S.1039](#), Prevention of Unconstitutional War with Iran Act of 2019 and [S.J.Res.63](#), A joint resolution to direct the removal of United States Armed Forces from hostilities against the Islamic Republic of Iran that have not been authorized by Congress.
- Other news: *Sen. Patty Murray On The U.S. And Iran (David Folkenflik, Dorey Scheimer): Sen. Patty Murray, D-Wash., voted against war authorization to invade Iraq in 2002. We check in with her this week on the latest in U.S.-Iran tensions. [WBUR, [01/10/20](#)]
- Senator Murray's [statement](#) on the Death of Qasem Soleimani in U.S. airstrikes

Iranian-Americans detained at the border:

Senator Murray signed onto two letters: [SADfor.us](#) & [SADfor.us](#) The first letter is signed with other congressional members of the WA delegation inquiring more information on this incident. Second, she signed onto a letter with other U.S. senators questioning CBP's practices related to secondary inspections of U.S. Citizens, permanent residents, and other travelers at ports of entry.

There are 3 bills limiting Presidential War Powers

S10, HR 3159 and Kaines' joint resolution. They are all similar. Sen. Murray has cosponsored Kaines' bill. Kaines says he has the votes to pass it. [Bloomberg.com](#)

Impeachment



Eric Swalwell ✓ @ericswalwell · 1h

Tell these Senators @realDonaldTrump's impeachment trial MUST include witness testimony (and retweet!)

[@SenatorCollins](#) 202-224-2523

[@SenatorRomney](#) -224-5251

[@SenAlexander](#) -224-4944

[@LisaMurkowski](#) -224-6665

[@SenCoryGardner](#) -224-5941

[@SenatorBurr](#) -224-3154

[@SenMcSallyAZ](#) -224-2235

- ***Murray, Cantwell call for expanded testimony in Trump trial (Calley Hair):** Sens. Patty Murray and Maria Cantwell, both Democrats, expressed a desire to hear from more people in the president's inner circle before casting their vote in Trump's trial. [The Columbian, [01/12/20](#)] (Most recent – more can be found on Senator Murray's Twitter, Instagram, and Facebook.

Sen. Swalwell asks us to contact these senators.

Both of our senators are calling for witnesses in the Impeachment trial. [TheDailyChronicle.com](#)

Pressure on Immigrants

There was too little time given for people to comment on the Federal Register on the public charge rule put in place. The latest on that: [ModernHealthcare.com](#)

The removal of the DACA program is in a lawsuit now. [NILC.org](#).

MPP, the remain in place policy that has thousands waiting on their asylum hearings is causing people angst, and welfare non-profits are finding it hard to get to them to help them. [AmericasVoice.org](#)

This administration is putting up the cost of applying for all levels of resident status.

More: [MiamiHerald.com](#)

Senator Murray visited the border in 2019 and introduced legislation to stop cruelty to children at the border. [Murray.Senate.gov](#) Senator Murray is the ranking member on the Health Education, Labor and Pensions Committee, and so the Office of Refugee Resettlement is her concern. Children are only allowed to be kept at the border for 72 hours and then they are united with a family member.

Puerto Rico Aid & Other Issues

Trump has been holding disaster relief funds for Puerto Rico. [Politico.com](#) He has since released some of the funds.

Russia hacked Burisma and we want our senators to look into it. It could be that they were looking for dirt on Hunter Biden. [NYTimes.com](#)

Trump said he's selling our troops' action. [Rollingstone](#)

We don't know if it is mandatory for all of the senators to be there for the impeachment trial.

We would like our senators to take the [no fossil fuel money pledge](#) – Adam Smith and Kim Schrier have. And cosponsor the Green New Deal, [H. Res. 59](#). They haven't.

The Jan. 18th Womxn's March in Seattle has been cancelled. It has been changed to March 8th, International Women's Day. [TheStranger](#) Marches like this really affect change: and we need to keep rallying.

Great view from Sen. Murray's Seattle office! (Brr!)

