


Bonamici Bulletin

By Congresswoman Suzanne Bonamici



Six Spring Town Hall Meetings



I will be holding six town hall meetings across the First Congressional District, which includes Washington, Yamhill, Clatsop, and Columbia counties and part of Multnomah County.

I will take questions from residents and provide an update about my work in Congress. The town hall meetings will be in McMinnville, Portland, Astoria, Gaston, Hillsboro, and Clatskanie.

Town hall meetings are an important part of my work, and I look forward to hearing directly from the people I'm honored to represent. Recently, Oregonians have contacted me about many of the serious and urgent issues I am working on with my colleagues. Those topics include protecting the environment, lowering health care costs, standing up for workers, making higher education more affordable, and demanding the full and immediate release of Special Counsel Mueller's report.

Members of my staff will also be available at the town hall meetings

to assist anyone experiencing problems with federal agencies such as the VA, Social Security Administration, or IRS. I hold more than a dozen town hall meetings every year, including at least one by telephone.

My local schedule for town hall meetings is as follows:

Gaston

Thursday, April 18, 2019 - 6:00 p.m.
Gaston Jr/Sr High School, Gymnasium
300 Park St
Gaston, OR 97119

Hillsboro

Tuesday, April 23, 2019 - 6:00 p.m.
Century High School, Auditorium
2000 SE Century Blvd
Hillsboro, OR 97123

Clatskanie

Wednesday, April 24, 2019 - 6:00 p.m.
Clatskanie Cultural Center, Birkenfeld
Theater
75 S Nehalem St.
Clatskanie, OR 97016

Making the Mueller Report Public

The public deserves to see Special Counsel Mueller's full report and the documents underlying it. Despite the conclusions of Attorney General Barr, there are still many outstanding questions about

the President's actions and conflicts of interest. The U.S. House of Representatives will continue to fulfill its responsibility to independently investigate these issues and their repercussions on our democracy.

Sweeping Reforms to Restore Our Democracy and Expand Voting Rights

Free and fair elections are the foundation of our democracy. Unfortunately, voter suppression and out-of-control campaign spending have prevented many people from accessing the ballot box and limited their voice in government. The House has taken action to restore our democracy and protect voting rights by passing the historic For the People Act. The For the People Act will expand the voter protections Oregon has pioneered to the rest of the country, including our groundbreaking automatic voter registration system. This legislation will also protect the integrity of our elections by requiring paper ballots nationwide. It will also end the influence of “dark money” by requiring any organization involved in political activities to disclose its donors. The For the People Act is a step in restoring confidence in our elections and in government.

Making Progress in Efforts to Address Climate Crisis

The Select Committee on the Climate Crisis met for the first time this week to chart a path for how we will approach our important work. In an op-ed in *The Oregonian*, I called for action and outlined my vision for what we must do to make a meaningful difference on this issue. Then, I spoke on the House Floor to remind my colleagues that our children and grandchildren's futures depend on our actions today. Finally, I was proud to cosponsor the first bill on the climate crisis of this Congress. The Climate Action Now Act will make sure that we uphold our commitments under the Paris Climate Accord to curb greenhouse gas emissions.

Standing Up for Workers

My grandfather was a coal miner, and he lost his leg in the mines. In 2019, we should be able to keep worksites safe for workers. Shockingly, the U.S. still

has not banned asbestos, and every year firefighters, construction workers, and even teachers and students are exposed to this known cancer-causing chemical. I've partnered with Senator Merkley to introduce the Alan Reinstein Ban Asbestos Now Act to finally ban asbestos once and for all. Additionally, gender-based wage discrimination continues to be an injustice to millions of working families. The Paycheck Fairness Act, which passed the House with bipartisan support, will help achieve equal pay for equal work by eliminating loopholes and stepping up enforcement. With this bill, we can finally disrupt a national cycle of discriminatory pay that keeps too many women and families in poverty.

Fairness and Equity in Education

It is unconscionable that our country has yet to fulfill its commitment to educate Native American students. After OPB uncovered very troubling conditions at the Chemawa Indian School in Oregon last year, I pressed the Director of the Bureau of Indian Education for answers about a list of problems at Chemawa. The Bureau still hasn't given us a satisfactory response—and now another student has died shortly after leaving the school. Robert Lee Tillman was just 15 years old. Along with several colleagues in the Oregon delegation, I've called for Congressional hearings on this issue so we can get answers and find ways to support the school and its students before any more students are harmed. I've also been working on affordable higher education. Any qualified student should have the opportunity to benefit from higher education without being burdened by debt. As the college admissions scandal draws attention, we must recognize that this case highlights systemic inequities that have existed for decades. Students of color, first generation students, and low-income students often have to overcome racism, lack of resources, and institutional barriers just to get in the door. That's unacceptable, and unjust. As I work with my colleagues on the Committee on Education and Labor to reauthorize the Higher Education Act, we will carefully consider inequity in college admissions and work to address it.

Vernonia's Voice is published on the 1st and 3rd Thursday. Look for our next issue on April 18.

NOTICE OF BUDGE COMMITTEE MEETING

A public meeting of the 2019-2020 Mist-Birkenfeld RFPD Budget Committee will be held **Tuesday, April 30, 2019, at 7:00 PM** at the Mist-Birkenfeld Main Station located at 12525 Highway 202. This is a meeting where deliberation of the Budget Committee will take place. Any person may attend this meeting and discuss the proposed programs with the Budget Committee.

**BUSINESS TO BE CONDUCTED
AT THIS MEETING WILL BE:**

- Election of Officers

- Presentation of Budget Message
- Presentation of Budget Document
- Discussion of the Budget Document
- Public Testimony
- Scheduling of possible future meetings

The proposed budget document will be available for inspection on April 23, 2019 at the Mist-Birkenfeld Main Station at 12525 Hwy 202, Mist, Oregon, during the hours of 9:00 am to 5:00 pm.

Joe Kaczinski
Budget Officer

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