

## **Orange County Residents Demand Action from Rep. Walters on Muslim Ban and Trump's Wall**

MEDIA ADVISORY FOR: Tuesday, January 31, 2017

*TUESDAY AT 3PM: Orange County Residents Demand Action from Rep. Walters on Muslim Ban and Trump's Wall*

Irvine, CA— On Tuesday, January 31, dozens of concerned citizens from the 45th Congressional District will gather at the offices of Representative Mimi Walters in Irvine to demand that the Congresswoman stand up for her constituents who vehemently oppose Donald Trump's inhumane anti-immigrant, anti-refugee and anti-Muslim agenda.

Mimi Walters stood behind Paul Ryan last Thursday as he pledged Republican support and taxpayer dollars to build Trump's monstrous, costly wall. She has also stood idly by as the Trump Administration issued an executive order that bars Syrian refugees fleeing war, halts the U.S. refugee resettlement program and denies entry to the nationals of seven predominantly Muslim countries, including some with legal permanent residence status in the United States.

Representative Walters' silence while Trump's policies threaten to tear families in her district apart has been deafening. She has refused repeated requests to meet with with concerned local citizens, instead choosing to use the disaffection of her distraught constituents as a fundraising tool in an email to her campaign contributors.

**WHAT:** *Constituents petition Mimi Walters to protect their families from Trump's anti-refugee, anti-immigrant, anti-Muslim agenda.*

**WHERE:** *Representative Walters' Office 3333 Michelson Drive Suite 230 Irvine, CA 92612*

**WHEN:** *Tuesday, January 31, 2017, 3 p.m.*

**WHO:** *It is estimated that 100 or more people, representing a broad coalition of concerned, unaffiliated residents of the 45th District, will participate and voice their concerns to Congresswoman Walters. This meeting is being organized by the local chapter of the Democratic Socialists of America in Orange County, Indivisible OC and Together We Will.*

The 45th Congressional District is home to a sizable and rapidly growing immigrant community. Many of its residents know the need or desire to move to the United States in pursuit of the

American dream all too well. Congresswoman Walters' district also includes UC Irvine. According to Chancellor Howard Gilman, UC Irvine has 154 scholars and students from impacted countries, who have been advised not to travel outside of the country. Trump's immigration policies will directly harm a considerable number of Mimi Walters' constituents; and there are many others who want to protect their neighbors, coworkers and friends from persecution and discrimination.

"Mimi Walters' refusal to even recognize the horrific impact of Trump's policies on her constituents is shocking and inhumane," said Cem Surmeli, a member of Democratic Socialists of America. "We are going to let Congresswoman Walters know that we need her to stand up to Trump and protect families in her district and around the country."

Garrett Larsen, also a member of DSA, added: "Although Trump's actions have been nothing less than disturbing and frightening, I've been thrilled to see such solidarity among so many people from such diverse backgrounds. It's critical that we demonstrate to Rep. Walters that we won't simply give in to despair, we won't give up, and we won't go away."

This action builds upon weeks of phone calls and visits to Mimi Walters' offices attempting to relay constituent concerns to the Congresswoman. Just last week, 60 of her constituents gathered in Mimi Walters' Irvine office to express their concerns with the proposed repeal of the Affordable Care Act. The Congresswoman has refused requests for meetings, and her staff has expressed ignorance as to when the Congresswoman would even return to Orange County to serve her constituents. Those in attendance on Tuesday will urgently demand that Representative Walters host an open-forum town hall to address the variety of concerns expressed by her constituents.

To speak to the local DSA chapter please contact [contact@ocdsa.org](mailto:contact@ocdsa.org). You can also find more information at [www.ocdsa.org](http://www.ocdsa.org) and [www.facebook.com/dsaorangecounty/](https://www.facebook.com/dsaorangecounty/).

To find out more about Indivisible Orange County, please visit [indivisibleoc.org](http://indivisibleoc.org).