

## IIABW Lobbies Congress

In early May 2025, IIABW members traveled to Washington D.C. to meet with our Congressional delegation to discuss taxes on small businesses and insurance regulations. Our group included: Lori Reed and Craig Field of Mitchell Reed & Schmitt; Reid Ekberg, Pilkey Hopping & Ekberg; Duane and Lynn Henson of WAFD Insurance; Amberlyn McQuary of Stonebraker McQuary; Hans Eskelsen and family of WAFD Insurance; Dan Holst of IIABW; Doug Mohr and Mike Erlandson of Vertafore. We discussed the following issues:

### Tax Reform

- Make permanent the 20% small business deduction by passing The Main Street Tax Certainty Act of 2025 (S.213/H.R.703). The deduction is set to expire at the end of 2025 so if it isn't extended most IIABW members will have a tax increase next year.
- Oppose any effort to eliminate or cap the employer tax exclusion for health insurance.



*Rep. Rick Larsen*



*Rep. Kim Schrier*

### Disaster Mitigation

- Support pre-disaster mitigation efforts, including
  - Fix Our Forests Act (H.R.471) to improve land use planning and forest management, streamline environmental reviews, deter frivolous litigation, reduce the fuel loads in our nation's forests, harden utility infrastructure, and adopt fire-resistant building standards.
  - Disaster Resiliency and Coverage Act of 2025 (H.R.1105) allows states to offer \$10,000 grants to property owners to undertake mitigation activities and makes these efforts eligible for a 30% tax credit.



*Rep. Michael Baumgartner*

- Disaster Mitigation and Tax Parity Act of 2025 (S.336/H.R.1849) excludes funds provided under state-based mitigation programs from federal taxable income.
- Recognize the important role that publicly available data plays in predicting risk. NOAA produces data on hurricane frequency, wildfire patterns and changes to flood zones which increases insurers accuracy in underwriting and helps keep premiums lower.
- Extend the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) before its expiration on September 30 with a long-term reauthorization of the program and ensure the NFIP continues the valuable role that independent agents in the program.



*Senator Maria Cantwell*

## **Legal Reform**

- Address legal system abuse, specifically by foreign entities and sophisticated investors that are profiting off the U.S. court system by financing and subsidizing litigation.
- Support The Litigation Transparency Act of 2025 (H.R.1109) to require disclosure of third-party litigation funding (TPLF) agreements and payments in civil lawsuits.
- Consider additional ways to crack down on foreign and domestic TPLF investors, such as levying an appropriate tax on their returns.

## **Crop Insurance**

- Protect crop insurance from harmful cuts that would undermine farmers and rural economies.
- Safeguard the critical role independent insurance agents play in the sale and servicing of crop insurance.
- Oppose any changes to the Farm Bill that would weaken the effective private sector delivery of crop insurance.