



SENATE MAJORITY OFFICE

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Oregon Senate Democrats Condemn Federal Abuse of Power in Oregon

Senators voice opposition to federalization of Oregon National Guard

SALEM, OR – The Oregon Senate Chamber today carried the voices of Senate Democrats opposed to the Trump administration's federalization of the Oregon National Guard. Senators covered the administration's abuse of power, violation of U.S. law, and false descriptions of life in Oregon.

"This kind of federal aggression violates our rights," said **Senate Majority Leader Kayse Jama (D – E Portland, Boring & Damascus)**. "It undermines Oregon's ability to govern ourselves, disrupts the work of trusted local law enforcement, and wastes taxpayer dollars that should be serving the people of Oregon."

"There are mostly peaceful protests taking place at the Immigration and Customs Enforcement federal building at south waterfront," said **Senator Lisa Reynolds (D – Portland)**. "We have been reassured by Portland Police Bureau that they are fully capable of responding to protesters that engage in illegal behavior. We do not need and we do not want federalized national guard troops deployed in this area."

"I want to say to every Oregonian worried about what this militarized escalation means for our families and communities: I want you to know that we see you. You are not alone," said **Senator Khanh Pham (Outer SE & NE Portland)**. "Portland will not fall for Trump's efforts to sow fear, silence opposition, and turn the city we love." into a place where people feel afraid to leave their homes."

"The administration will find an excuse to invade if the things said there disagree with the White House dogma," said **Senator Lew Frederick (D – N & NE Portland)**. "It provides yet another television episode with distraction from real issues like health care, housing, education, economic stability, international respect, and true public safety. We need governance not theater."

"Weaponizing unauthorized federal power against Oregonians for political gain is shameful. It is also part of a larger strategy to intimidate, divide, and stigmatize Americans including trans people, the homeless, and the disabled," said **Senator Sara Gelser Blouin (D – Corvallis,**

Albany & S. Salem). “We must stand together. Oregonians deserve peace and stability, not a federal invasion.”

Oregon filed a lawsuit over the weekend challenging the president’s action, and Attorney General Dan Rayfield today sought a temporary restraining order, asking the court to immediately stop the federalization and deployment of Oregon National Guard troops to Portland.

A Senate Committee meeting tomorrow will get clarity on the Oregon Military Department’s role carrying out the Trump administration’s directions to our National Guard. **Senator Anthony Broadman (D – Bend)**, chair of the public safety subcommittee under the Joint Ways and Means Committee, will get answers regarding state and federal legal authorities and funding aspects of mobilizing the Guard, and details on Oregon National Guard activities.

“These are the same people we count on to mobilize during wildfires and other disasters,” **Sen. Broadman** said. “Regardless of who is directing their deployment, the Oregon National Guard is made up of Oregonians who are citizen soldiers: neighbors, friends, coworkers, and small business owners.”

The subcommittee meets tomorrow, September 30 at 2:30 p.m. Video of the subcommittee will stream [online](#).

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