



## SENATE MAJORITY OFFICE

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### **Statement from Senate Majority Leader Kayse Jama on President Trump's Insults and Intimidation**

**SALEM, Ore.** – Amid ongoing aggression by the Trump administration toward immigrant communities, President Trump this week escalated rhetoric against Somali Americans in particular. **Senate Majority Leader Kayse Jama (D – East Portland, Damascus & Boring)** has the following response:

"President Trump's cruelty has been the central feature of his immigration policies, and now he is directing his hatred at Somali Americans specifically, as well as immigrants and refugees from 18 other countries.

"Somali Americans are friends and neighbors, teachers, doctors, entrepreneurs, and dedicated members of the community. The president's callous insult to Somali people and sudden halt to legal immigration proceedings for people from more than a dozen countries confirm what good-faith leaders have long observed: this administration has no interest in a lawful, efficient, and accountable U.S. immigration system. Driven by racism and Islamophobia, they are sowing fear and hostility.

"Oregonians are rejecting this president's bigotry, and our respect for one another is the strength that will carry Oregon through this time of crisis created by the federal government. Communities here are responding with the warmth and vitality I experienced when I first arrived from Somalia to build my future as an Oregonian and an American.

"Against today's federal threats, Oregonians are watching out for each other. They're turning up to safeguard families walking to school, notifying neighbors about threatening agents spotted nearby, and navigating support systems when this crisis strikes a local family. As lawmakers, my colleagues and I stand behind Oregon Attorney General Dan Rayfield, ensuring his office has the resources to stand up to the Trump administration in court.

"Together, we will defend Oregon as the welcoming, vibrant home we all love."

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