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Statesman Journal

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Rural Organizing Project filed a lawsuit against Oregon State Police alleging the agency is violating the state's landmark sanctuary laws and sharing Oregonians' personal data with federal immigration agents.

CAPI LYNN/STATESMAN JOURNAL

Oregon State Police sued for sharing data with immigration agencies

Dianne Lugo

Salem Statesman Journal | USA TODAY NETWORK

Rural Organizing Project, a statewide nonprofit based in Cottage Grove, filed a lawsuit May 5 against Oregon State Police in Multnomah County Circuit Court, alleging that the agency is violating the state's landmark sanctuary laws and sharing Oregonians' personal data with federal immigration agents.

The nonprofit is asking the court to direct OSP not to share information with U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement and other immigration agencies, including driver's licenses, driver history, driver's license photographs, vehicle registration data, Social Security numbers and law enforcement records.

ROP claims that federal immigration agencies have repeatedly accessed Oregonians' information over the past year. They point to two systems OSP operates: the National Law Enforcement Telecommunications System and the state's Law Enforcement Data System.

The complaint said data provided to OSP by NLETS in February showed authorities involved in immigration enforcement accessed Oregonians' data more than 1.4 million times in the preceding year. ICE alone queried Oregon for the data 176,576 times, the com-

plaint said. Homeland Security Investigations within the Department of Homeland Security queried 21,363 times, and U.S. Customs and Border Protection and DHS accounted for the remainder, the complaint said.

Those numbers do not include all queries of Oregonians' data, lawyers added, as ICE and HSI agents in Oregon will access the same information separately through the LEDS terminal.

The complaint says OSP has the technical capacity to block immigration enforcement agencies from both systems, but has declined to do so.

U.S. Sens. Ron Wyden, D-Oregon, and Jeff Merkley, D-Oregon, along with U.S. Reps. Suzanne Bonamici, D-Oregon, and Andrea Salinas, D-Oregon, called on states across the country to stop sharing drivers' data with federal immigration agencies in a November 2025 letter.

Other states, such as Illinois, Massachusetts, Minnesota, and New York, have stopped allowing federal agents to access their residents' data, according to NLETS testimony to Congress in 2025, the complaint added.

See **LAWSUIT, Page 2A**

Pacific Power asks state regulators to raise rates

Customers would see 1.9% increase in bills

Bill Poehler

Salem Statesman Journal | USA TODAY NETWORK

Pacific Power is asking state regulators to raise rates that would generate \$170.7 million but says customers would only see a 1.9% increase in bills that doesn't kick in until mid-2027, according to a May 5 filing.

The company has asked to raise rates by 2.8% starting June 4, according to its filing with the Public Utility Commission. That would be offset by a 3.2% decrease through the so-called power cost adjustment mechanism.

That's an annual program that allows the company to credit customers or have them pay the difference based on the actual costs Pacific Power pays for power purchased on the wholesale market and other expenses.

See **POWER, Page 2A**

Residents asked to share experiences with belonging, discrimination

Whitney Woodworth

Salem Statesman Journal | USA TODAY NETWORK

Salem leaders are asking for residents to share their experiences in the city's Community Belonging Survey.

The survey, which is done in a partnership between Salem's Human Rights Commission and Western Oregon University, is open through May 12. The annual survey asks Salem community members to share their experiences with discrimination, sense of belonging and feeling welcome in the city.

"Everyone deserves the opportunity to be heard, especially when it comes to decisions that shape their community," Salem Human Rights Commission chair Robert Marshall said. "This survey helps ensure that people across Salem, including those whose voices are often underrepresented, can share their experiences concerning belonging to and in this community."

Commission leaders said the findings help the city better understand community needs and guide

See **SURVEY, Page 2A**

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