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MINNEAPOLIS

Trump threatens to use Insurrection Act

Comes day after immigration officer shot and wounded man

STEVE KARNOWSKI, ALANNA DURKIN RICHER, HALLIE GOLDEN AND AAMER MADHANI
Associated Press

MINNEAPOLIS — President Donald Trump threatened to invoke the Insurrection Act and deploy troops to quell persistent protests against the federal officers sent to Minneapolis to enforce his administration's massive immigration crackdown.

Thursday's threat comes a day after an immigration officer shot and wounded a man. That shooting further heightened the fear and anger that radiated across the city since Immigration and Customs Enforcement agent Jonathan Ross shot and killed Renee Good.

Trump repeatedly threatened to invoke the rarely used federal law to deploy the U.S. military or federalize the National Guard for domestic law enforcement, over the objections of state governors.

"If the corrupt politicians of Minnesota don't obey the law and stop the professional agitators and insurrectionists from attacking the Patriots of I.C.E., who are only trying to do their job, I will institute the INSURRECTION ACT, which many Presidents have done before me, and quickly put an end to the travesty that is taking place in that once great State," Trump said on social media.

Presidents invoked the Insurrection Act more than two dozen times, most recently in 1992 by President George H.W. Bush to end unrest in Los Angeles. In that instance, local authorities asked for the assistance.

Minnesota Attorney General Keith Ellison responded to Trump's post by saying he would challenge any deployment in court. He already sued to try to stop the surge by the Department of Homeland Security, which says it made more than 2,500 arrests in the state since early December. ICE is a DHS agency.

Demonstrations

In Minneapolis, smoke filled the streets Wednesday night near the site of the latest shooting as federal officers wearing gas masks and helmets fired tear gas into a small crowd. Protesters responded by throwing rocks and shooting fireworks.

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BOTETOURT COUNTY | GOOGLE DATA CENTER

HEATHER ROUSSEAU PHOTOS, THE ROANOKE TIMES

Members of The Southwest Virginia Data Center Transparency Alliance protest the proposed Google data center in Botetourt County outside The Western Virginia Water Authority offices in downtown Roanoke on Thursday.

Opponents organize

Group demands transparency from officials about proposed water use

ALEXIA PARTOUCHE
The Roanoke Times

Opponents of a proposed Google data center in Botetourt County filled the Western Virginia Water Authority's board room on Thursday to push back against the project and demand transparency.

Tens of people attended the water authority's monthly board meeting to show their resistance, with many involved with the Southwest Virginia Data Center Transparency Alliance, a grassroots organization that formed in response to planned project.

"There just wasn't any real organized action against this, and there needed to be, because these are well-funded, well-moneyed interests that they get paid to advocate and to talk to these boards and people," said Ben Verschoor, a moderator for the alliance's Facebook group, in an interview.

Please see **WATER,** Page A6

WATCH: *For a video on the opposition to the Google data center, point your smartphone camera at the QR code, then tap the link.* **NEWSVU**

Overflow crowds opposing the proposed Google data center in Botetourt County stood outside the Western Virginia Water Authority's boardroom during a meeting Thursday in downtown Roanoke.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Move to draw new lines on fast track

House of Delegates passed resolution clearing way for redistricting

DAVE RESS
Richmond Times-Dispatch

RICHMOND — A move to draw new Congressional district lines in response to efforts in other states to boost Republicans' chances in the year's midterm elections got off to a fast start on the General Assembly's first day back.

The House of Delegates passed a resolution clearing the way for a 2026 redistricting by a 62-33 party-line vote. It was one of four resolutions to amend the state Constitution. The Senate will vote Friday.

"No one woke up in October and said, 'Gosh, I really feel like amending the constitution,'" the resolution's sponsor, Del. Rodney Willett, D-Henrico, said as the House debated the measure.

"Our hand was forced. Our hand was forced here by the extraordinary actions coming from Washington by a president who contacted not one, not two, but multiple states and directed that to redistricting and change the elections picture and essentially disenfranchise voters," he said.

If the Senate also approves the resolution, it will go before voters in a referendum in April, said Del. Marcia Price, D-Newport News, who chairs the House Privileges and Elections Committee, the panel that launched the resolution on its fast track Wednesday.

That's required because the measure would amend the state Constitution, creating a temporary exemption to the constitutional requirement that an independent body draw Congressional, state Senate and House of Delegates district lines.

Price said, while there are no official maps for a proposed redistricting, she expects they'll be ready by the end of the month.

"Before we can even get to our main focus of affordability, we must first address protecting our democracy and Virginians' freedom," Price said.

Please see **REDISTRICTING,** Page A6

What's next for Greenland, Denmark

Officials had difficult meeting with Trump administration

GEIR MOULSON
Associated Press

U.S., Danish and Greenlandic officials met face to face to discuss President Donald Trump's ambitions to take control of Greenland, a semiautonomous territory of Denmark.

At the same time, Denmark and several European allies said they'll send troops to Greenland in a pointed signal of intent to boost the vast Arctic island's security.

Danish Foreign Minister Lars Løkke Rasmussen said after a meeting in Washington on Wednesday with his Greenlandic counterpart, U.S. Vice President JD Vance and Secretary of State Marco Rubio that a "fundamental disagreement" remained. He acknowledged that "we didn't manage to change the American position" but said he hadn't expected to.

However, Wednesday's events did point to ways ahead.

Searching for compromise

Denmark, Greenland and the U.S. agreed to form a high-level working group "to explore if we can find a common way forward," Løkke Rasmussen said. He said he expects the group to hold its first meeting "within a matter of weeks."

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