

The Oregonian

Portland joins Seattle in lawsuit against Trump

By Jessica Floum

June 30, 2017

Portland has joined Seattle in a lawsuit challenging President Donald Trump's executive order that threatened to withhold federal funding from sanctuary cities that refuse to help federal immigration enforcement.

The northwest cities are seeking a declaration that they are abiding by federal law and asserting that the Trump administration's threat to withhold federal funds is unconstitutional. Those funds, the lawsuit says, would otherwise go to home care for the disabled elderly and to food for children in need.

Mayor Ted Wheeler had announced in April that Portland would join Seattle's original lawsuit. The two cities made that official this week when they filed an amended complaint in the Western District of Washington.

The new filing notes that Portland ranks 11th among U.S. cities for resettling international refugees. The city relies on federal funding to help operate its police bureau and to help house vulnerable residents, it says.

The suit alleges Trump's order violates the Tenth Amendment, which prohibits the federal government from directing local and state governments to do the federal government's work. It also asserts that the order violates the U.S. Constitution's Spending Clause, which bans the federal government from using the denial of funds to coerce state or local action.

The cities also argue that the order violates the federal government's separation of power by surpassing congressional oversight of federal funds.

"It's not merely that our cities' values are under attack, it's that these attacks are against the law," Wheeler said in a statement. "Together, we are standing up for our values and the Constitution."

Two months after Trump's executive order threatened to withhold federal funds from sanctuary cities, Attorney General Jeff Sessions said in a March press conference that the federal government would also take "all lawful steps to claw back any funds" already awarded to sanctuary cities."

Seattle filed suit two days later.

"We are pleased to have the city of Portland join in Seattle's suit to protect our shared values," Seattle City Attorney Pete Holmes said in a statement.

In addition to asking the court to declare the relevant portion of the executive order unconstitutional and therefore void, the cities are asking that the Trump administration be required to pay their legal fees.

City Attorney Tracy Reeve said her office expects to do the bulk of the work on the lawsuit without outside counsel since Seattle already has counsel and took on much of the work by filing the suit.

Still, she said that could change. The city previously considered turning to a pro bono attorney outside the city.

"We're still finalizing arrangements for counsel," Reeve said.

Willamette Week

Portland Joins Legal Battle Against Trump's Executive Order on Sanctuary Cities

Mayor Ted Wheeler says the city is "standing up for our values and the Constitution."

By Katie Shepherd

June 30, 2017

Portland joined Seattle Friday in the legal battle against President Donald Trump's executive order that would strip American cities of federal funding for refusing to cooperate with federal immigration enforcement.

"It's not merely that our cities' values are under attack, it's that these attacks are against the law," said Mayor Ted Wheeler in a press release Friday. "Together, we are standing up for our values and the Constitution."

Sanctuary jurisdictions are those which refuse to honor U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement's detainers – orders to keep someone in custody after they would normally be released by local law enforcement.

Officials in Portland and Seattle contend that the cities are in compliance with federal law and have the right to refuse to enforce federal immigration regulations using state or local resources. Federal courts, including in Portland, have ruled it unconstitutional to keep someone in detention beyond their release date.

Seattle first filed the lawsuit in late March because city officials thought the federal government had violated the 10th Amendment, which protects states from the federal overreach of using state institutions to enforce federal regulations. The lawsuit also alleges that the Trump Administration may be violating the Constitution's Spending Clause by taking away funds to coerce states and cities.

Oregon has been a sanctuary state for 30 years, and Portland City Council passed a resolution in March symbolically affirming its status as a sanctuary city.

Trump's executive order demands that the federal government strip sanctuary cities, counties and states – which includes Oregon – of federal support, though exactly which funds would be withheld and when remains unclear.

The Portland Mercury

Is Portland "The Most Politically Violent City in America"? Politico Thinks So.

By Bri Brey

June 30, 2017

Tensions in Portland's political climate are high, to be sure, but are we the most politically violent city in the country? *Politico* seems to think so, and **an article published today by Casey Michel** makes some convincing points about the city's **history of racism**, a decade of **Antifa activity**, and escalating **tensions between the right and left playing out in protests**, as well as occasional violence.

Don't TLDR this one. It's extremely important context for Portland's current volatile political climate.

The next round of free speech protests and counter protests are scheduled for tonight. And a note to add to this prediction from the article...

And the likelihood of a confrontation may increase if Buchal, the head of the local GOP, follows through on his plans to hire militias—Oath Keepers and Three Percenters—as security at future events, a development he told POLITICO Magazine he's still considering.

Consider that even more likely after today's news that **Multnomah County Republicans formally announced that they will hire militia groups to run security at their events.**

Stay tuned for updates, and stay safe, Portland.

For the latest in information about rallies, marches, and political events, consult the *Mercury's* **RESISTANCE & SOLIDARITY** calendar. Want to publicize an event? Send the info to calendar@portlandmercury.com.

The Portland Business Journal

Saltzman wants resolution opposing Trump's net neutrality rollback

By Clare Duffy

June 30, 2017

City Commissioner Dan Saltzman announced Friday his plan to bring Portland into the fight against the Trump administration's plan to roll back net neutrality regulations.

In a press conference today with Sen. Ron Wyden, Saltzman laid out his resolution which, if approved by the Portland City Council, would result in a legal filing to the Federal Communications Commission "fiercely" opposing the reversal of net neutrality. The Obama-era rules, approved by the FCC in 2015, were intended to protect free expression and access online by blocking big companies from paying extra for faster internet.

"Portland residents and small businesses, our schools and public agencies, all rely on an Internet whose content cannot be controlled and censored by those with deeper pockets or bullied by

corporate interests," Saltzman said. "Although these rules are under federal control, we at the city of Portland must make our voices heard."

Wyden has long been a staunch supporter of equal internet access and privacy for consumers, having spoken out against everything from the Department of Justice having access to consumer data from tech companies to the PIPA and SOPA acts of 2012 under which people who pirated online content could have faced jail time.

He offered the example of startups, like the many in downtown Portland, to illustrate the potential effects of rolling back net neutrality regulations.

"Oregon's economy revolves around startups having the chance to get big," Wyden said. "And it's pretty hard for them to do it if you have a telecommunications system that's stacked the deck in favor of the big guys."

Those "big guys," companies like Verizon, Comcast and Charter, are generally in support of removing the regulations, and some have proposed making compliance with net neutrality voluntary.

Wyden's response?

"The idea that these big companies are just going to voluntarily comply with the principles of net neutrality is almost like saying that 9 year-old William Peter Wyden, my son, will voluntarily limit himself to one dessert," he said. "Isn't going to happen."

Saltzman will raise the issue at Portland City Council on July 12 at 2 p.m., just before the FCC begins its deliberations on net neutrality in mid-July.

Portland joins Seattle in challenging Trump's sanctuary cities order

*By Jon Bell
June 30, 2017*

Saying that the values of cities like Portland and Seattle are "under attack," Portland Mayor Ted Wheeler today announced that Portland has joined its northern neighbor in a suit challenging the Trump administration's sanctuary cities executive order.

"It's not merely that our cities' values are under attack, it's that these attacks are against the law," Wheeler said, in a release. "Together, we are standing up for our values and the Constitution."

According to the release, the cities filed an amended claim in the Western District of Washington this week seeking a declaration that they are "acting consistently with federal law and that the U.S. Constitution precludes application of the executive order to deny them federal funds to which they are otherwise entitled."

Trump's order would strip federal funding from cities that refuse to help the federal government with immigration enforcement.

"We are pleased to have the city of Portland join in Seattle's suit to protect our shared values," said Seattle city attorney Pete Holmes. "I look forward to working with the Portland City Attorney, Tracy Reeve, as we work to advance the Rule of Law in challenging times."

OPB

Portland Joins Lawsuit Over Trump's Sanctuary City Order

By Conrad Wilson

June 30, 2017

The city of Portland has joined Seattle's lawsuit over the Trump administration's executive order targeting sanctuary cities.

Trump signed the executive order in January. It threatened to strip federal funding from cities that refuse to enforce federal immigration laws.

Portland's entry into the lawsuit comes the same week the U.S. House passed two aggressive immigration bills, one which would cut some federal dollars from cities that don't cooperate with federal immigration enforcement officers.

Portland and Seattle are seeking a declaration from the courts that they are following the law.

In a statement, Portland Mayor Ted Wheeler said the cities are standing up for their values and the U.S. Constitution.

"It's not merely that our cities' values are under attack, it's that these attacks are against the law," he said.

In an amended complaint filed this week, the cities also seek a declaration that the U.S. Constitution prevents the federal government from cutting off federal funds to which they are entitled.