

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

July 14, 2026

The Honorable Todd Blanche
Acting Attorney General
U.S. Department of Justice
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20530

Acting Attorney General Blanche:

We rebuke your threats against Oregon elections officials and demand the Department of Justice (DOJ) cease this targeted witch hunt of states' election administration ahead of consequential midterm elections.

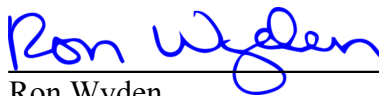
On July 7, 2026, the most recent threat was issued by Assistant Attorney General for Civil Rights Harmeet Dhillon and comes following repeated failures by the DOJ to illegally attempt to obtain Oregon voter rolls containing sensitive voter information through litigation in order to create an unprecedented national voter database. It is clear that after these attempts to secure access to sensitive state voter data have been repeatedly rejected by the courts, the DOJ is resorting to public threats of prosecution and intimidation against elections administrators in order to coerce state officials to turn over their voter rolls and cede their constitutional duty to conduct elections to the executive branch.

Election officials across the country are on the frontlines of our elections, they already face unprecedented attacks and face personal safety concerns. We should be working to protect election officials regardless of political affiliation, not using government resources to further intimidate election officials that are following all federal laws, and consistently administering elections that are safe and secure, as is the case in Oregon.

These efforts are a direct attempt to undermine vote-by-mail, which is used successfully by tens of millions of eligible voters every election. Despite these efforts, the courts have also repeatedly blocked implementation of President Trump's executive orders that aim to restrict vote-by-mail. Faced with these combined failures, the DOJ is now attempting to coerce state elections officials with threats of prosecution in order to prevent Americans from voting.

These threats are a clear pattern in strategy to disenfranchise millions of voters in Oregon and nationwide and attack states' constitutional right to manage and oversee elections. We demand that you immediately cease these efforts.

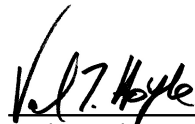
Sincerely,



Ron Wyden
United States Senator



Jeffrey A. Merkley
United States Senator



Val Hoyle
Member of Congress



Andrea Salinas
Member of Congress



Suzanne Bonamici
Member of Congress



Janelle S. Bynum
Member of Congress



Maxine Dexter, M.D.
Member of Congress