

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

July 18, 2025

United States President Donald J. Trump
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
The Whitehouse
Washington, DC 20500

Dear President Trump:

We write urging you to rescind Executive Order 14260, *Protecting American Energy from State Overreach*, and to refrain from interfering as states and municipalities seek to enforce their own laws. As members of Oregon's congressional delegation, we will not stand idly by while this Administration attempts to undercut efforts to combat climate chaos.

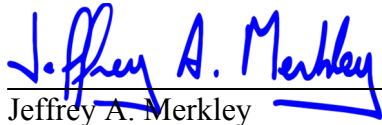
Oregon has experienced the devastation of the climate crisis, including increased catastrophic wildfires and the deadly Pacific Northwest heat dome. Extreme weather events are already harming households across the country, and the impacts are only going to get worse. Trillions of dollars will be needed for our country to adapt to the climate future, as well as to help people rebuild in the face of natural disasters. The question is who is going to be responsible for paying those costs: taxpayers, or the oil and gas companies that have profited from the crisis?

Your Executive Order threatens the ability of states and localities to hold polluters responsible for the costs of their actions. This is an unprecedented and illegal attempt to undermine states' sovereignty to enforce their own laws.

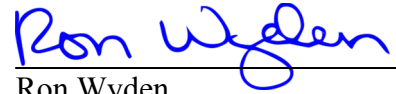
The cases that state and local jurisdictions are bringing are torts cases - civil cases that arise from state common law theory. This is an area traditionally regulated by states, and the federal government has no role in these matters. For example, the Supreme Court has consistently declined to hear cases brought by oil and gas companies seeking to prevent states from suing under state laws. The threat of meritless litigation can be devastating to state and local governments and upset the balance of federalism by removing states' ability to protect their residents from harms when federal law does not provide an adequate remedy.

Our communities across the country are suffering grave threats to our public health, safety, and economic security as a result of Big Oil's climate deception and pollution. Governments, residents, businesses, and others must have access to legal and legislative remedies in order to hold fossil fuel companies accountable, seek justice, and make polluters pay for the damage they have caused. The Administration cannot only respect the principle of states' rights when it thinks the state is right. We urge you to repeal your executive order so that states are able to protect their citizens as they see fit.

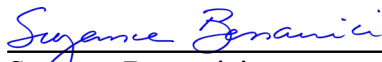
Sincerely,



Jeffrey A. Merkley
United States Senator
Ranking Member, Committee on
Budget



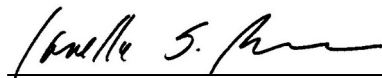
Ron Wyden
United States Senator



Suzanne Bonamici
Member of Congress



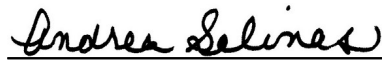
Maxine Dexter
Member of Congress



Janelle S. Bynum
Member of Congress



Val Hoyle
Member of Congress



Andrea Salinas
Member of Congress