



TINA KOTEK
GOVERNOR

August 19, 2025

Via: FedEx

The Honorable Pamela Bondi
Attorney General
U.S. Department of Justice
950 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, D.C. 20530

Dear Attorney General Bondi:

The State of Oregon acknowledges receipt of your letter of August 13, 2025. Your letter asserts the State of Oregon engages in “policies and procedures that thwart federal immigration enforcement.” You demanded a response by today. On behalf of the State of Oregon and its citizens, I respectfully disagree with your assertions. The State of Oregon, its public officials, and its law enforcement officers do not engage in conduct that thwarts federal immigration enforcement.

Since Oregon enacted its state law regarding federal immigration enforcement nearly 40 years ago, Oregon public officials and law enforcement officers have not violated federal immigration enforcement law.

Oregon enacted a law regarding federal immigration enforcement in 1987. A 2018 ballot measure to repeal portions of Oregon’s federal immigration enforcement law failed when 63% percent of Oregon voters opposed repealing the existing law. The original state immigration law was strengthened and clarified by the Oregon Legislature in 2021. The Oregon Attorney General’s sanctuary guidance states “Oregon stands for the safety, dignity, and human rights of all Oregonians.” The citizens of Oregon have repeatedly and emphatically supported Oregon’s immigration enforcement policy.

The State of Oregon acknowledges your threat to pursue criminal charges against public officials “using their official position to obstruct federal immigration efforts and facilitating or inducing illegal immigration.” No Oregon public official or law enforcement officer is engaged in any activity to “obstruct” federal immigration efforts. Oregon’s enacted laws are consistent with the Tenth Amendment and anticommandeering rule. The state does not take on the additional expense or burden to perform federal immigration enforcement as it is the job of the federal government.

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The State of Oregon is in compliance with federal law and will continue to follow state law. Therefore, no "immediate initiatives" are necessary to eliminate laws that impede federal immigration enforcement.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tina Kotek". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Tina" and last name "Kotek" clearly distinguishable.

Governor Tina Kotek