



RESOLUTION OF THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITY WOMEN OF OREGON ("AAUW OF OR") AND THE
PORTLAND BRANCH OF AAUW OF OR, July 22, 2020

WHEREAS, a number of Portland citizens have been recently exercising their First Amendment rights by demonstrating against racism and in support of the Black Lives Matter movement;

WHEREAS, we do not condone violent or destructive actions undertaken by people attending these demonstrations;

WHEREAS, it appears that in early July, 2020 and continuing until the present date, peaceful protestors are being stopped, forcibly grabbed and detained by federal authorities, including the US Department of Homeland Security, US Marshals Service, US Customs and Border Protection and Federal Protection agencies;

WHEREAS, it appears that during these unlawful seizures and detentions that federal authorities have been using private unmarked vehicles, and have failed to identify the agency they represent or explain why Oregon citizens are being taken into custody;

WHEREAS, a peaceful protester has been hit in the head by federal authorities with an impact weapon resulting in his sustaining severe injuries;

WHEREAS, it appears that these seizures and detentions by federal authorities have been done without probable cause and in violation of the civil rights of Oregon's citizens;

WHEREAS, instead of containing violence or the volatile environment in downtown Portland, these actions of the federal authorities have provoked and exacerbated them;

WHEREAS, the Attorney General of the State of Oregon has filed a lawsuit in the US District Court for the State of Oregon seeking to restrain these unlawful activities, including a requirement that federal agents identify themselves and their agency before detaining or arresting people off the streets of Oregon, explain to persons detained or arrested the reason for the detention or arrest, and not to arrest individuals without probable cause or a warrant;

WHEREAS, on July 17, 2020, Senator Jeffrey A. Merkley, Senator Ron Wyden, Representative Suzanne Bonamici, and Representative Earl Blumenauer sent a letter to US Attorney General William Barr and Acting Secretary Chad Wolf of the Department of Homeland Security expressing their alarm about the authoritarian tactics employed in the streets of Portland by the Department of Justice and the Department of Homeland Security.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that we urge federal authorities to immediately (1) cease the unlawful seizures and detentions of Oregon citizens in Portland and (2) remove these recently deployed federal authorities from the City of Portland.

SIGNED BY: the American Association of University Women of Oregon ("AAUW of OR") and the Portland Branch of AAUW of OR:

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