# Rally makes way through Salem

Oregon Capital Bureau

SALEM — Loggers and logging trucks made their way from the fairgrounds in Salem to the Capitol on Thursday morning to protest two bills — House Bills 2020 and 2007.

A long convoy of logging trucks drove along Court Street honking, while people held signs and cheered.

Traffic backed up into south Salem along Commercial Street Southeast and Liberty Street Southeast as more trucks drove toward the Capitol.

By 8 a.m., hundreds of people were on the Capitol Mall, wearing chrome and colored hard hats, suspenders and boots, cheered on by pop songs blaring from overhead speakers. Dozens if not hundreds of semitrucks and pickup trucks with flags and painted messages protesting the bill circled the block, sounding their airhorns.

The Capitol on Thurswas transformed. The business suits were swapped out for camo, cutoff shirts and Three Percenter sweatshirts. Lawmakers were mostly absent as the House was not scheduled to convene, vet the building teemed with more state police than at any point during the legislative

When the Senate convened briefly at 9:30 a.m. — not its usual time – semitruck airhorns immediately began sounding, reminding lawmakers that they are being watched. In the gallery above sat loggers and truckers, peering down at the faux floor session that lasted mere minutes, no one expecting any real work to be done.

Sen. Shemia Fagan, D-Portland, one of the more vocal and liberal members of the Senate, said she's had a police escort the past two days but so far hasn't had any issues with protesters.

The log truckers have become a recent presence at the Capitol. HB 2020 would increase the cost of motor vehicle fuels, and they also fear it could further limit how much logging could be done in the state.

However, this week, the Senate Democratic leaders said the bill is dead: The votes aren't there. Opponents, including Republican senators, have said they don't trust that's the case.



Capital Press Photo/Sierra McClain

Hundreds of Oregonians braved inclement weather in Salem on Thursday morning to protest legislation they said will threaten their livelihoods.

The senators, who left the state last week in protest, said Wednesday night they would like to see the bill go on the ballot.

The group is also protesting HB 2007, which establishes a diesel standard for medium and heavy-duty trucks. However, the bill only regulates trucks driving through the greater Portland metro area, and logging trucks — among others — are exempt from the standard.

The rally was organized through the Facebook page Timber Unity, which has grown to more than 6,000

ALMANAC

HIGH

109° (2015) 42° (1934)

1.01"

0.08

4.50"

5.10

Sat.

WNW 4-8

NNW 6-12

5:08 a.m.

8:49 p.m.

2:26 a.m.

4:29 p.m.

Last

July 24

**PENDLETON** through 3 p.m. yest.

**HERMISTON** through 3 p.m. yest.

HIGH

TEMP.

**Normals** 

TEMP.

Normals

**PRECIPITATION** 

Month to date

Year to date Last year to date

Normal year to date

**PRECIPITATION** 

Month to date

Last year to date

Normal year to date WINDS (in mph)

Boardman WSW 6-12

Pendleton WNW 6-12

**SUN AND MOON** Sunrise today

First

July 9

Full

July 16

Sunset toniaht

Moonrise today

24 hours ending 3 p.m

Normal month to dat Year to date

24 hours ending 3 p.m

Normal month to date

followers in just a couple weeks. The movement has constantly been portrayed as a pure grassroots movement by members and lawmakers in opposition of the bill, but the group recently formed a political action committee directed by Andrew Miller, chief executive officer of Stimson Lumber.

The PAC reports about \$13,000 in contributions since it was registered with the state last Thursday, June 20 — the same day Senate Republicans walked out. Of that money, \$5,000 came directly from Miller.

# Head of Oregon's embattled child welfare division retires

Marilyn Jones led the Department of Human Services' Child Welfare Division since September 2017

> By ANNA GRIFFIN Oregon Public **Broadcasting**

SALEM — The head of Oregon's embattled child welfare agency is retiring — effectively immediately and with an apparent push from the governor.

Marilyn Jones led the Department of Human Services' Child Welfare Division and was responsible for overseeing foster children and other at-risk kids. A longtime state worker, she took over the office in September 2017 with a mandate to fix the agency after a series of scandals and mistakes.

But Jones' tenure was marked by more trouble. That included reports that children sent to facilities out of state never received visits from Oregon caseworkers and that a facility in Montana drugged and physically restrained a 9-year-old Oregon girl. Oregon has been sending children to several facilities that other states have stopped using because of abuse reports. A national advocacy group sued Oregon in April.

This spring, Brown created a new oversight board to solve the state's child welfare crisis and placed one of her senior advisors inside the agency.

In a written statement Wednesday, Brown indicated that she made the decision it was time for Jones to go:

"Although progress has been made, the speed of reform needs to be faster to ensure foster children are safe, to provide better support to families, and to relieve the burden on caseworkers," the statement said. "After consulting with experts in the field and discussing with DHS leadership, it became clear that now is time for change at the top of the Child Welfare Division."

Jones will be a consultant for the state through August.

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# NATIONAL EXTREMES

Yesterday's National Extremes: (for the 48 contiguous states) High 104° in Tucson, Ariz. Low 19° in Bodie State Park, Calif.

**NATIONAL WEATHER TODAY** 

Seattle Billings 83/61 84/65 Washington 94/76 San Francisco 69/55 Kansas City Los Angeles

Miami . 92/69 20s 30s 40s cold front warm front stationary front

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# 57 electric scooters, bikes

PORTLAND (AP) - A dive team recovered dozens of electric scooters and bicycles while cleaning the Willamette River sea wall in downtown Portland.

KATU-TV reports the Multnomah

The five companies participating in Portland's electric scooter trial program have 1,975 scooters on the streets, which is slightly below the total allowed by the city.

yearlong phase of a pilot program intended to help the city introduce the devices while avoiding pitfalls experienced by other U.S. metropolises.

e-scooters last year was successful but also generated 6,000 complaints and raised questions about pedestrian safety and the impact of the devices on public spaces like parks. The city said the scooters also led to 176 medical center visits.

# **BRIEFLY**

## Ex-ICE agent gets 25 years pulled from Willamette River for sex abuse

County Sheriff's Office River Patrol Dive Team removed 57 electric scooters and bicycles this week.

This spring, Portland began a second,

A four-month experiment with the

MEDFORD (AP) - A man who formerly worked as a deportation officer with the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement office in Southern Oregon was sentenced to 25 years in prison for sexually abusing a child for more than nine The Mail Tribune reports 56-year-old

Blake Northway was sentenced Wednesday in Jackson County Circuit Court after admitting to sexually abusing an underage female family member between March 2009 and September 2018. The Jackson County District Attorney's

Office says Northway was arrested last fall following a Medford police and Oregon State Police investigation.

Northway had been assigned to ICE's Medford office but was placed on leave after his arrest Sept. 13. None of the charges or convictions stemmed from Northway's ICE duties.



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