

BROWN

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said in the release. "By joining Washington, we will be able to share legal resources with our neighboring state and at the same time ensure that the voices of Oregonians harmed by the President's executive order are heard."

The governor's executive order expands a 1987 law that prohibits the use of state and local law enforcement resources in federal immigration enforcement.

"Oregon's unique law has succeeded in keeping the deportation of immigrants by the federal government separate and distinct from the enforcement of our state criminal laws by our local police," said Kimberly McCullough, ACLU of Oregon's legislative director. "We are pleased the governor has extended this important state disentanglement to all state agencies and employees."

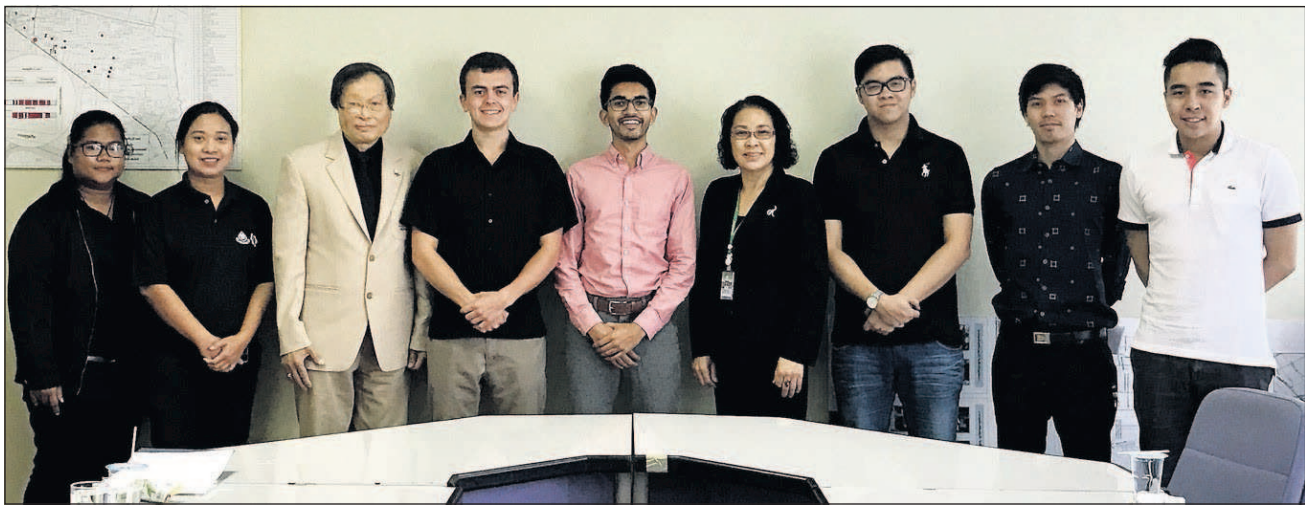
It's unclear how many people headed to Oregon were affected by Trump's executive order, according to the ACLU of Oregon, which has provided legal support to airport detainees.

A 5-month-old Iranian girl who was scheduled to have surgery at Oregon Health & Science University for a heart condition was one of those not allowed to enter the country because of the president's executive order, according to a report by KATU News.

"I find it deplorable that an infant who was supposed to come to Oregon to receive much needed live-saving care was not able to access that care at Oregon Health & Science University," Brown said Thursday.

The governor's executive order does the following:

- Bars state employees from discriminating against residents for their immigration status.
- Prohibits the use of state moneys, equipment or personnel for detecting or apprehending people solely on the basis of their immigration status.
- Prohibits the use of state resources to assist or facilitate the creation of a Muslim registry, or any other registry targeting a religious group.



Contributed photo

John Day resident Harsh Patel, center, stands with his teammates Jared Praino (fourth from left) and Kaopod Chantapakul (third from right) as well as members of the Bangkok, Thailand, Rotary. The woman, right of Patel, is affiliated with the Thailand Parliament. "They are taking this photo to show our approval in Thailand," Patel said. "They welcome our innovation and our new millennial way of thinking."

WATER

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Feb. 10, in Seattle.

If they win there, the young men will compete at the TigerLaunch finals at Princeton. Winners receive \$30,000 and a chance to meet with top venture capital firms.

Patel's team is renovating the design and building brand recognition. The team bought a water-dispensing machine and recently traveled to Thailand to visit the factory where it is manufactured, working with designers there to make updates to the machine.

Patel said the upgrades include a reverse osmosis process to remove impurities from the water — it can also desalinate salt water.

"We're re-engineering the water-dispensing machine to ensure that the consumer gets the cleanest water possible," he said.

They are also refining it with a one-button process and switching out the pipes in the machine with a noncorrosive PVC material.

Patel called the innovation a "big movement."

Because clean drinking water is not readily available in areas such as Thailand, people purchase water bottles, which

cost between seven to 10 Thai bahts (about 21 to 30 cents).

"We're charging one Thai baht — 3 cents — per fill-up," Patel said. "Our machine saves the consumer a lot of money."

When the opportunity to join the contest came up, Patel said he was all for it.

"I like having the entrepreneurial mindset," he said.

When he told his friends Kaopod Chantapakul and Jared Praino about the opportunity, he said, "Now is the time to do it."

"My team and I are dedicated to giving clean water to local people," he said. "Having the John Day community supporting us and developing countries means a lot. We're trying to get engaged with the world and trying to improve it, one step at a time."

Although Patel lives in Boston while attending school, he still calls John Day home. His parents Rakesh and Jyotsna Patel live in John Day, as well as his grandparents.

"We are very proud of him," Rakesh said.

Harsh invites those who would like to vote for his project to visit: <http://www.tigerlaunch.com/seattle-regional>.

Votes need to be in by 6:30 p.m. on Friday, Feb. 10, and the team with the most votes receives \$400.



Contributed photo

The inside of the water filtration and dispensing machine John Day resident Harsh Patel and his college teammates are redesigning to provide clean, affordable drinking water in developing countries. They are competing in the TigerLaunch entrepreneurship competition hosted by the Princeton Entrepreneurship Club.

911

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mind and a secure feeling to know that we can pick up the phone, call 911 and they will be here," Morgan said.

Green said the emergency dispatch center costs local taxpayers roughly \$200,000 a year to operate, and the city is spending a massive chunk of its revenue to continue providing emergency response services for the entire county — funds that could be used for improving infrastructure or attracting new residents.

John Day spends a higher percentage of its property

Grant County by the numbers

- second lowest median household income in Oregon at \$32,614 per household.
- highest unemployment rate in the state at 8 percent.
- tied with Harney County for highest suicide rate in the state with 32 per 100,000 people.
- behavioral crime rate 35 percent higher than state average, with DUI rate 116 percent higher and liquor law violations 138 percent higher.

Information from John Day City Manager Nick Green.

tax revenue on public safety than any other city in Oregon, Green said — nearly three times the percentage Bend spends on public safety.

The current 911 tax collects 75 cents a month from all landlines and cell phones and distributes the funds to dispatch centers based on number of connections they serve.

Green said, for the current 911 tax level to fully fund the John Day Dispatch Center, Grant County would need to increase from 7,185 residents to 64,667.

Green appealed to state Rep. Cliff Bentz during a Jan. 24 John Day City Council meeting to help secure funding. Bentz said this was a common problem in rural communities, but it was the first he had heard about it in Grant County. He pledged to work toward acquiring funding sources for the dispatch center.

"John Day is now in its third straight decade of population and economic decline," Green wrote in a memo to Bentz. "The inability to diversify our economy into new

frontiers combined with state tax policies that disenfranchise rural communities, has resulted in structural failure to our economy from which we cannot recover."

He said there are two Oregon, both with their own problems: the east, characterized by inadequate infrastructure, population decline and dependence on outside subsidies, and the west, characterized by congestion, soaring housing prices and hyper-urbanization. Green is calling for tax reform that will work for smaller, rural communities.

John Day is the home of the only dispatch center in Grant County. It serves 4,529 square miles, including 1.8 million acres of public land frequented by hunters and tourists.

Green said the minimum cost of staffing the facility year-round is \$445,000. The 911 tax provided \$248,982 in fiscal year 2015. This left the city, county and other tax jurisdictions to come up with roughly \$196,000 to fund the dispatch center.

Tax reform designating the dispatch center as "mission essential" and fully funding the center would allow the almost \$200,000 of county taxpayer dollars spent on infrastructure projects to improve the community and attract more people, Green said.

ROAD

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County Court meeting. He asked the commissioners to have the county's legal counsel, Ron Yockim, review the validity of the ordinance. Webb said the wording in the ordinance was too broad and violated the Constitution and federal statutes because it applied to all roads on public land in the county.



Mark Webb

The ordinance was originally passed to ensure continued access to parts of Grant County and to aid in emergency and search and rescue operations, according to Grant County Judge Scott Myers.

The court planned to send it on to Yockim for review, Myers said. The ordinance has come into play a handful of times in dealings with the Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management. Myers said he understands residents' concerns about road closures limiting access.

Prairie City resident Frances Preston said she believes the way of life in Grant County is threatened and this is a matter of limiting access, as well as a systematic attempt to control the people by controlling the land.



Frances Preston

She read from a letter at the meeting, in which she stated she believes states always have rights over the federal government and the sheriff is the chief law enforcement officer. She said she did not believe the ordinance conflicted with laws or state and federal constitutions.

The Forest Service, however, does not recognize the road ordinance as valid because it conflicts with federal law, according to Malheur National Forest Supervisor Steve Beverlin. He said the Supreme Court was the highest authority in the country, and the federal government has authority over public federal lands.



Steve Beverlin

Beverlin said the Forest Service would gladly work with the county to transfer authority, along with maintenance and liability costs, to the county.

He said roads are sometimes closed because of environmental impact on wildlife or waterways. When road closures are made, he said, they try to maintain access to some areas by re-opening closed roads and creating loops with other roads.

Beverlin said any proposed road closures are brought to the attention of the county court and the general public before action is taken.

"It's a real open, transparent process that we encourage anybody to get engaged with," Beverlin said. "The public are the ones that help us modify our projects to determine what's really appropriate, and we value their opinion."

I found Dad's remote in the fridge again. ...I'm beginning to get worried.

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