

## Oregon News

### [Oregon Republicans join with Democratic Eugene lawmaker in legal bid to force redo of 2 Lane County House districts](#)

*The Oregonian*

With backing from national Republican legal forces, two Lane County voters filed a challenge Monday to Democratic lawmakers' legislative redistricting plan, asking the Oregon Supreme Court to order Secretary of State Shemia Fagan to redraw just two state House districts.

The two Lane County residents allege in the petition filed Monday that the Democratic-controlled Legislature ignored redistricting criteria in state law, including that districts should "not divide communities of common interest" and that "no district shall be drawn for the purpose of favoring any political party, incumbent legislator or other person."

Calderwood and Culbertson are asking the Supreme Court to "remedy these violations simply, without disrupting any other districts."

They largely base their challenge on allegations by Rep. Marty Wilde, a Eugene Democrat, that his fellow lawmakers drew the lines to punish him for criticizing their map-drawing and prevent him from challenging state Sen. Floyd Prozanski, a Democrat who will be up for reelection in 2022.

Wilde said in a declaration included with the challenge that he told Prozanski and state Sen. Lee Beyer of Springfield that he was interested in running for the state Senate.

### [TWO LAWSUITS CHALLENGE REDISTRICTING PLAN](#)

*KQEN*

Two lawsuits challenging the recently approved state legislative redistricting map were filed on Monday.

David Calderon and Gordon Culbertson are taking issue with the boundaries drawn for House District 12. The new map moves the precinct where State Representative Marty Wilde lives, into the district represented by Cedric Hayden. Wilde, a Democrat, said he is being punished for suggesting he might challenge incumbent State Senator Floyd Prozanski. Wilde currently represents House District 8.

Another lawsuit filed by former State Representative Patrick Sheehan and Samantha Hazel, claims the boundaries were made to protect the interests of incumbent lawmakers.

House Republican Leader Christine Drazen released a statement in response to the challenge. Drazen said, "State law is clear, gerrymandering is cheating. Oregon Democrats created a state legislative map that protects incumbents and punishes those who spoke out against their partisan power play". Drazen said the legal action is an opportunity for Oregonians to get fair legislative maps.

### [Report: Oregon's congressional map receives an "F" grade](#)

*KOIN*

Oregon's new congressional map is failing when it comes to partisan fairness and competitiveness, according to Princeton University's Gerrymandering Project.

The project uses law, data and outreach to fight for "fair" districting in the United States.

Jason Rhode, the national coordinator for the project, said that the university also has a program that analyzes and assigns letter grades to redistricting maps. Oregon's congressional map earned itself an "F" due to significant Democratic advantage and advantages to incumbents, the report said. The project also gave the map a failing grade because it's "very uncompetitive relative to other maps that could have been drawn." "A gerrymandered map often produces a majority of districts that are not competitive, effectively guaranteeing electoral victories to members of only one party in these districts," according to the report.

### [Wind stalls train, damages structures in NW Oregon, SW Washington](#)

*KOIN*

Sunday's windstorm toppled trees around the Portland metro area. In Milwaukie, a tree crashed onto Oatfield Road near Southeast Roethe Road. In Washington state, a fallen tree caused transportation officials to temporarily close Interstate 5 southbound near Woodland. Downed trees left a train delayed in Washington and a school greenhouse damaged in Hillsboro. The greenhouse was at Eastwood Elementary School.

### [Google wins more tax breaks for two new data centers in The Dalles](#)

*The Oregonian*

The city council of The Dalles voted unanimously Monday night to grant new property tax breaks for two more Google data centers, worth tens or hundreds of millions of dollars to the tech giant. Wasco County commissioners voted unanimously in favor of the tax breaks last week.

Before Google proceeds with new construction in its property along the Columbia River, the company also wants agreement from the city on a deal to substantially increase the water available to the company to cool its massive data centers. The water pact, which has generated skepticism among some residents of the small city, is due for a vote early next month.

### [Judge increases fines, pressure on Oregon State Hospital as it fails to admit defendants](#)

*OPB*

A Multnomah County Circuit Court judge has once again found the Oregon State Hospital in contempt of a court order, after administrators failed to admit two defendants found guilty except for insanity.

The two men have been waiting in the county's jail for admission to the state psychiatric hospital for between seven and nine months.

Judge Nan Waller ordered the state to pay \$2,500 per day, per person as long as the men wait in jail. It's a significant increase from last month, when Waller first found the state in contempt of her ruling to transport the two men to the state hospital or pay \$100 per day, per person.

"The Oregon State Hospital and the Oregon Health Authority are in contempt of court as defined under [the law] by failing to admit the defendants to OSH for treatment within seven days as mandated by the Court's 9/22/21 written order," Waller wrote in her latest order, dated Oct. 22.

Waller required the fines be paid to the Multnomah County Sheriff's Office, which operates the county jails, to "exclusively fund staff training for corrections staff on managing the

behavioral health issues of people in custody.”

[Oregon posts 8th week of declining coronavirus cases -- as counties unable to report cases](#)

*The Oregonian*

Oregon eked out its eighth straight week of declining coronavirus cases Monday – apparently because of a data processing problem.

The Oregon Health Authority recorded 7,707 cases in the past week, down 4% from a week earlier. That includes 2,293 cases announced Monday for the preceding three days, and 12 more deaths.

Oregon had been on track to lose its weekly streak of declining cases – and in fact was on pace to see cases increase by perhaps 10%. But the three-day tally of identified cases disclosed Monday came in low, with about 1,000 fewer cases and about 9,000 fewer tests completed than the same time a week ago.

[Oregon wants test-to-stay in schools, but supply chain shortage getting in the way](#)

*OPB*

Schools have opened, and stayed open, this fall, even with COVID-19 still sickening people in Oregon communities. But COVID-19 is affecting schools too, including students and staff who don't have the virus, as close contacts and exposures to positive cases lead to quarantines, which move people in and out of school.

Oregon Department of Education director Colt Gill sees two solutions to that:

“One is more students getting vaccinated,” Gill said. Currently, students 12 and older are eligible for the COVID-19 vaccine. Vaccine eligibility for students ages 5-11 may be coming soon, but the FDA has not been approved that yet.

Students who are vaccinated and asymptomatic can remain in school.

The other solution, Gill said, is something called “test-to-stay.” This program means students who test negative for COVID-19 can stay in school. Oregon health officials said last month they were considering it, but at an Oregon state board of education meeting Thursday, Gill said Oregon needs to make it happen — starting with a more uniform quarantine policy across counties.

“I’m working with the Oregon Health Authority to try to streamline that, and to frankly move to a test-to-stay policy, where students and staff are regularly tested for COVID-19 if they become a close contact and can stay in school if those tests are negative,” Gill said.

**Andrew Fromm**

---

Communications Director  
House Republican Office  
(503) 986-1009

\*Please note that all emails sent to and from this email may be subject to disclosure under public records law.

