

Resolutions to be Voted in the October CC Meeting

RPC 2018-014

Regarding Washington County Sheriffs' use of Amazon.com's "Rekognition" Facial Recognition Program

(A) WHEREAS, the Washington County, Oregon Sheriffs' Department is the sole uninterrupted United States program participant^{1,2}, who, with little public disclosure began using in 2017 a pilot facial recognition program developed by Amazon.com, known as Rekognition, along with consulting services, to provide real-time facial recognition³;

(B) WHEREAS, a non-disclosure agreement between Amazon.com and the Washington County Sheriff's Department has made details surrounding these agreements difficult to obtain⁴, leaving many open-ended questions on the details of the program's capabilities and usage that may affect county residents adversely and may set a bad precedent for the United States at large;

(C) WHEREAS, organizations including the Electronic Freedom Foundation (EFF) and the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU), have noted many potential problems, most notably false positives, affecting various facial recognition technologies (including Rekognition), particularly a recent test showing false positive identification largely of members of the Congressional Black Caucus⁵, which reflect the systemic problems in the recognition of people of color, younger people and women;

(D) WHEREAS, difficulties in facial recognition of various population groups may be exacerbated by documented situations of biased law enforcement agency practices⁶; and

(E) WHEREAS, Amazon.com's own shareholders⁷ and employees⁸ have joined many groups in writing letters of opposition to these technology agreements, reflecting very broadly-based concerns regarding the development of a wide spread "big brother" presence that blurs the boundaries of private commercial and government control of surveillance and other personal information data;

THEREFORE, We the Washington County Democratic Central Committee (WCDCC) of Oregon,
Resolve as follows:

1. We the WCDCC, make a formal public records request for details of this agreement regarding local usage of Rekognition software and request that this information be made public at a publicly announced meeting where the Washington County sheriff's department and Amazon.com speak on this issue and active participation, and public input be encouraged from community residents and other parties such as elected officials, the ACLU and EFF;
2. We question the wisdom and public benefit of merging government surveillance data and privately owned and controlled surveillance data, since the usage and availability of such merged data might be made available to other private entities and would make security of such private data difficult or impossible to control;

3. We request our County Commission and chair⁹ as well as other elected local, state and congressional representatives, conduct appropriate reviews of public and remaining non-public details of the Amazon/Washington County Sheriffs agreement, and provide public disclosure, oversight or legislative corrective action is needed, and establish a community oversight body; and
4. We encourage and will help existing local and national groups interested in building a local community group effort to develop local ordinances to protect public and personal privacy in all areas of technology innovation (cell-site simulators, drone usage, etc. as well), working with and learning from other similar high tech community efforts (Santa Clara County, CA¹⁰, Seattle, WA along with Los Angeles, CA¹¹).

Resolution submitted by an R&PC Member – July 31, 2018

Approved by R&PC – September 4, 2018

Notes:

- 1 - June 26, 2018 - **Orlando Police End Test of Amazon’s Real-Time Facial ‘Rekognition’ System** – Bill Chappell, National Public Radio
<https://www.npr.org/2018/06/26/623545591/orlando-police-end-test-of-amazons-real-time-facial-rekognition-system>
- 2 - July 12, 2018 - **Orlando Police are testing Amazon’s Facial Recognition software again** – Benjamin Freed, State Scoop
<https://statescoop.com/orlando-police-are-testing-amazons-facial-recognition-software-again>
- 3 - May 22, 2018 - **Amazon is Selling Facial Recognition to Law Enforcement** - Elizabeth Dwoskin, The Washington Post
<https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/the-switch/wp/2018/05/22/amazon-is-selling-facial-recognition-to-law-enforcement-for-a-fistful-of-dollars/>
- 4 - May 22, 2018 - **Amazon Teams Up With Law Enforcement to Deploy Dangerous New Face Recognition Technology** – Matt Cagle, ACLU of Northern California, Nicole Ozer, ACLU of California
<https://aclu-or.org/en/news/amazon-teams-law-enforcement-deploy-dangerous-new-face-recognition-technology-heres-how-its>
https://www.aclunc.org/docs/20180522_ARD.pdf - page=4
- 5 - July 26, 2018 - **Amazon’s Face Recognition Falsely Matches 28 Members of Congress with Mugshots** – Jacob Snow, Technology & Civil Liberties Attorney, ACLU of Northern California
<https://www.aclu.org/blog/privacy-technology/surveillance-technologies/amazons-face-recognition-falsely-matched-28>
- 6 - **Street Level Surveillance – Facial Recognition** – Electronic Freedom Foundation
<https://www.eff.org/pages/face-recognition>
- 7 - June 18, 2018 - **Amazon Shareholders Call for Halt of Facial Recognition Sales to Police** – Matt McFarland, CNN
<https://money.cnn.com/2018/06/18/technology/amazon-facial-recognition/>
- 8 - June 21, 2018 - **Amazon Workers Demand Jeff Bezos Cancel Face Recognition Contracts With Law Enforcement** - Kate Conger, Gizmodo
<https://gizmodo.com/amazon-workers-demand-jeff-bezos-cancel-face-recognition-1827037509>
- 9 - July 27, 2018 - **Justice League of Washington County Facebook post**
<https://www.facebook.com/crimjusticeleague/posts/359667554567671>
- 10 - June 15, 2016 – **A California County Breaks New Ground for Surveillance Transparency** – Shahid Buttar, Electronic Freedom Foundation
<https://www.eff.org/deeplinks/2016/06/california-county-breaks-new-ground-surveillance-transparency>
- 11 - August 7, 2017 – **West Coast Jurisdictions Advance Community Oversight of Police Surveillance** – Shahid Buttar, Electronic Freedom Foundation
<https://www.eff.org/deeplinks/2017/08/west-coast-jurisdictions-advance-community-oversight-police-surveillance>

A Resolution Supporting the Accountable Capitalism Act
(Particularly the Codetermination Model)

(A) WHEREAS, for several decades in Germany, under a model known as codetermination, large companies have been required by law to allow workers to elect between one-third and one-half of the members of their supervisory board of directors;

(B) WHEREAS, this codetermination model provides a voice for workers, reduces short-term executive thinking, and discourages the enrichment of wealthy shareholders without due consideration for working people;

(C) WHEREAS, in America, while corporate profits and company productivity have dramatically increased in recent decades, wages earned by workers have not meaningfully increased;

(D) WHEREAS, in response to these concerns Senator Elizabeth Warren of Massachusetts introduced the Accountable Capitalism Act into the United States Senate on August 15, 2018;

(E) WHEREAS, this Act would implement codetermination for large American corporations, whereby at least 40% of the governing boards of these large corporations would be composed of workerelected members;

(F) WHEREAS, this Act would require the largest companies to receive corporate charters obliging them to consider the interests of workers and citizens in addition to shareholders;

(G) WHEREAS, this Act would require chief executives to wait five years after being awarded shares before selling them, thereby providing incentives for long-term sustainable business practices;

(H) WHEREAS, this Act would prevent company executives from spending corporate money on political contributions except with the approval of 75% of directors and shareholders; and

(I) WHEREAS, the author of this Act asserts that it would have the effect of reducing corporate abuses and limiting the redistribution of wealth from American workers to affluent shareholders, and would accomplish these aims with no government expenditures;

THEREFORE, We the Washington County Democratic Central Committee (WCDCC) of Oregon,
Resolve as follows:

1. We support passage of the Accountable Capitalism Act.
2. In particular, we urge implementation of the codetermination model of corporate governance in the United States.

3. We call upon Senator Ron Wyden, Senator Jeff Merkley, and Representative Suzanne Bonamici to immediately sign on as cosponsors of the Accountable Capitalism Act.
4. In the event that the current Republican-controlled government refuses to pass this proposal as a federal law, we call upon our state representatives and state senators to urgently study the ways to implement its provisions into Oregon's state corporation law.

Resolution submitted by Patrick Maguire, R&PC Member – August 17, 2018

Approved by R&PC – September 4, 2018

A Revision of the Resolution
Supporting Health Care for All Oregonians (HCAO)

(A) WHEREAS, Article III in the Democratic Party of Washington County platform states: “Washington County Democrats believe that healthcare is a human right” and “We support the adoption of a publicly funded, equitable, high-quality, comprehensive single-payer health care system that includes general, preventative, and emergency care plus vision, dental, hearing, and mental health services at the state and/or federal level”;

(B) WHEREAS, the 4th Legislative Action Item(LAI) of the Democratic Party of Washington County states “Implement a single payer healthcare system for the state of Oregon;

(C) WHEREAS, a statewide coalition, Health Care for All Oregonians (HCAO) is working toward health care as a basic human right and to create a comprehensive single payer system in Oregon to secure that right;

(D) WHEREAS, accessibility to adequate basic health care is essential to living a healthy life and adequately responding to illness, disease and injury;

(E) WHEREAS, access to basic health care should be available to all Oregonians regardless of their economic condition;

(F) WHEREAS, uncontrolled health care costs are a primary cause of personal bankruptcies, even among those that are insured;

(G) WHEREAS, the current private insurance system has shown itself to be inefficient, very costly, inequitable, and incapable of covering people with the greatest needs;

(H) WHEREAS, market projections indicate that single payer basic health care insurance for all Oregonians is estimated to cost no more than the current system of incomplete and limited coverage;

(I) WHEREAS, the current platform of the Democratic Party of Oregon (DPO) Article 6 asserts that ...”health care is a fundamental human right”, and supports creation of a “single payer health care system”; and

(J) WHEREAS, the DPO Priority Legislative Action Item number 1 is “As health care is a human right, adopt an equitable, high-quality, comprehensive, universal, publicly funded health care system including general, preventative, and emergency care, plus vision, dental, hearing, prescription drugs, long-term care, substance abuse, hospice care, and mental health services at the state or federal level:

THEREFORE, Be it Resolved that the Democratic Party of Washington County:

1. Strongly supports the goals of the HCAO as consistent with party objectives;

2. Will become a member in the HCAO coalition, and publicly endorse the coalition;
3. Encourages all Democratic Party members to actively support the HCAO through membership, contributions, and/or activism;
4. Encourages Party members to discuss health care issues, Democratic Party of Washington County platform positions and LAIs, DPO platform positions and LAIs, and HCAO goals and objectives when canvassing or at forums;
5. Will take every reasonable opportunity to publicize their support for the HCAO goals in local media; and
6. Will provide a copy of this resolution to the state party and other Oregon county parties with the recommendation that they adopt it."

Initial Resolution: 2013

Revised Resolution submitted by Janice Karpenick, R&PC Member – August 24, 2018

Approved by R&PC – September 4, 2018

RPC 2018-021

Regarding Leadership and Ineffective Handling of Sexual Harassment Complaints in the Oregon Legislature

(A) WHEREAS, the Oregon Bureau of Labor and Industries (BOLI) is the agency tasked with protecting employment rights and public accommodation against discrimination, and the Labor Commissioner is the elected official who manages BOLI;

(B) WHEREAS, Labor Commissioner Brad Avakian filed a complaint¹ with BOLI on August 1, 2018 against the Oregon Legislative Assembly and Legislative Administration Committee as employers for allowing sexual harassment in the state legislature which has created a hostile work environment;

(C) WHEREAS, Senate President Peter Courtney and House Speaker Tina Kotek co-chair the Legislative Administration Committee which is responsible for managing personnel;

(D) WHEREAS, Senators Sara Gesler and Elizabeth Steiner-Hayward reported unwelcome sexual conduct and inappropriate touching by Senator Jeff Kruse as early as March 2016;

(E) WHEREAS, Kruse retired in March 2018 when an outside investigation concluded at least 15 women, including student interns, were sexual harassed by Senator Kruse;

(F) WHEREAS, Communications Director Robin Maxey is still employed by Senator Courtney despite a female employee reporting Maxey for sexual harassment;

(G) WHEREAS, student interns subjected to sexual harassment in the legislature reported being misled regarding legal options to pursue recourse and they fear an end to their careers if they come forward; and

(H) WHEREAS, the national #MeToo movement has brought attention to the pervasive issue of sexual assault and the struggle for survivors to be heard and believed;

THEREFORE, We the Washington County Democratic Central Committee (WCDCC) of Oregon, Resolve as follows:

1. We support people reporting harassment and abuse;
2. We condemn any efforts to silence people reporting sexual harassment or to inhibit or obscure their ability and understanding of available legal remedies; and
3. We call upon all Washington County Representatives and Senators to the State Legislature to select new leadership for future Legislative Sessions, and not support Speaker Kotek nor President Courtney.

Resolution submitted by Farrah Chaichi, R&PC Member – September 2, 2018

Approved by R&PC – September 4, 2018

1. <https://assets.documentcloud.org/documents/4627115/080118-Commissioners-Complaint.pdf>

RPC 2018-016 Resolution Declaring Voter Driven Initiatives, Referendums, and Referrals Inviolable

(A) WHEREAS, the people of the State of Oregon have only two methods to change State Law, (through electing officials that will champion the possible law and voter driven initiatives, referendums and referrals whereby voters can bring proposed laws directly to a vote during the general election);

(B) WHEREAS, voter driven measures require a substantial number of signatures of registered voters to qualify to be placed on the election ballot (anywhere between 4% and 8% of the number of people who voted for Governor in the last election);

(C) WHEREAS, this form of direct democracy is the only method the people have to directly force action by their government if a majority of their peers agree, especially if their representatives in that government are unwilling to act; and

(D) WHEREAS, the contents of the petition circulated to create voter driven initiatives, referendums, and referrals do not ask any other question, or establish the approval or disapproval of any other position outside the scope of the petition's contents;

THEREFORE, We the Washington County Democratic Central Committee (WCDCC) of Oregon, Resolve as follows:

1. We hold voter driven initiatives, referendums, and referrals are inviolable once they have been disseminated for signatures and should be allowed to proceed through the course of the process unhindered by any political entity;
2. We hold voter driven initiatives, referendums, and referrals for which the signature collection process has begun are not to be used in any form of political quid pro quo by anyone for any reason;
3. We believe the “chief petitioners” or creator(s) of a voter driven measure, when they begin collecting public signatures, create a public trust with those whose signatures they have collected and should only begin collecting those signatures if they will, in good faith, see the entire process through to the best of their ability, or relinquish that responsibility to someone who can and is willing;
4. We hold violators of this public trust, (either elected officials who intercede and prevent a voter driven measure to complete the process unhindered, or the chief petitioners who do not see their responsibility through to the end) have manipulated the will of all those who signed, those who collected those signatures, and all those who otherwise worked to see the proposal's passage, and as such have silenced an attempt at direct democracy;

5. We believe those who violate that trust have proven themselves unworthy to hold it and should be censured appropriately;
6. We call on all lawmakers in the state of Oregon to take up legislation protecting voter driven initiatives, referendums, and referrals and ensuring they are free from outside interference until after they are submitted to the Secretary of State for final certification; and
7. We will submit this resolution to all other county central committees and the state central committee for adoption to their platforms.

Resolution submitted by Kyle Martin, PCP Member – September 4th, 2018

Approved by the R&PC – October 2nd, 2018

RPC 2018-020 A Resolution of the Washington County Democrats
Central Committee in support of HR 6097 and companion legislation in the Senate

(A) WHEREAS, Representative Jayapal (D. WA) has introduced HR 6097, which amends Title 1 of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (ACA), “to authorize the establishment of, and provide support for, State-based universal health care systems that provide comprehensive health benefits to state residents and for other purposes”;

(B) WHEREAS, The Democratic Party of Oregon's (DPO) number one legislative priority is Improved, Expanded Medicare for All: “to adopt an equitable, comprehensive, universal health care system which provides comprehensive health care to all regardless of ability to pay;

(C) WHEREAS, The WCDCC and the DPO also recognize health care as a human right;

(D) WHEREAS, There have been ongoing efforts in Oregon for over 20 years to establish a single payer health care system in the state and there are now efforts now underway to place a referendum in front of voters in Oregon in 2020 to establish such a health care system in the state;

(E) WHEREAS, According to the Oregon Health Authority, 94% of Oregonians currently have some form of health coverage (biennial Health Insurance Survey conducted 2017) while 6% remain uninsured (12% of the young adult population);

(F) WHEREAS, The rise of health care premiums, in addition to cut backs in financing and coverage at the Federal level to Medicaid, Medicare, and other health care programs will adversely impact care in Oregon and significantly decrease the number of Oregonians who can remained covered;

(G) WHEREAS, Present coverage for many Oregonians does not guarantee full health care as increasingly high deductibles and copays, and increasing pharmaceutical costs, limit access to care and medication (documented in the 1/19/2017 Rand Report); and

(H) WHEREAS, HR 6097 will provide access to funding and legislative flexibility and make it easier for states to obtain waivers to implement universal coverage programs, to help achieve our goal of a single payer health care system;

THEREFORE, We the Washington County Democratic Central Committee (WCDCC) of Oregon,
Resolve as follows:

1. The WCDCC supports the passage of HR 6097 and thanks Representatives Bonamici, DeFazio, and Blumenauer for signing on;
2. The WCDCC encourages Senator Wyden and Senator Merkley to sponsor a companion bill in the Senate;
3. The WCDCC requests that our state legislators also encourage Representative Kurt Schrader to sign on to HR 6097; and
4. A copy of this resolution shall be sent to our entire Congressional delegation, all of our Oregon state legislators, and the head of the Oregon Health Authority

Resolution submitted by Lisa Stiller, R&PC Member – October 2nd, 2018

Approved by R&PC – October 2nd, 2018

(A) WHEREAS, Metro is a regional government that administers land use, transportation, solid waste, performance and open space planning for the tri-county Portland region (Multnomah, Clackamas, and Washington Counties);

(B) WHEREAS, Metro also administers regional convention and performance facilities, the Oregon Zoo, and a number of public cemeteries;

(C) WHEREAS, Metro is the only elected regional government in the United States, providing governance services to a population of approximately 1,750,000 (as per the 2010 Census) in the Metro region;

(D) WHEREAS, Metro's current six regional councilors each represents a population of approximately 290,000 persons, more than twice the number of persons in a State senatorial district (~120,000 persons); and

(E) WHEREAS, Metro represents 24 individual city jurisdictions as well as a large unincorporated area population, all with diverse interests:

THEREFORE, We the Washington County Democratic Central Committee (WCDCC) of Oregon, Resolve as follows:

1. We strongly urge the expansion of the Metro Board from 6 to 10 districts, not including the region wide position of Metro President, so as to provide fairer representation of the residents more in line with legislative representation;
2. We strongly urge that at least one of the new Metro districts be comprised of a majority of residents who do not reside within an incorporated jurisdiction; and
3. We will submit this resolution to all Metro Councilors that represent portions of Washington County and request a formal response as to the implementability of this proposal.