

OREGON STATE LEGISLATURE

November 8, 2023

Via Electronic Mail

The Honorable LaVonne Griffin-Valade Office of the Secretary of State 255 Capitol St NE Salem, Oregon 97301

Secretary Griffin-Valade:

We call on you and your office to immediately halt implementation of the "Misinformation, Disinformation, and Mal-information (MDM) Analysis Platform Services" Contract (IT Services Contract per Bid Solicitation S-16500-00007470). We have learned that the purpose of this system is to continually monitor and actively manipulate the free speech of Oregonians. We believe that this system as described in the Request for Proposal (RFP) violates Oregonians' First Amendment rights.

Logically (logically.ai), a UK-based company, was awarded the MDM contract last month. As detailed in the RFP (link here), the system will "...identify and mitigate harmful information online as it relates to elections (mis-, dis-, and mal- information, or "MDM")." The Logically system will monitor Oregonians' social media posts for MDM on a nonstop basis and use artificial intelligence to "identify perceived threats" and "recommend countermeasures", including promoting an AI-generated counter-narrative to Oregonians' speech. The system will also report anything it determines is a possible threat or constitutes speech that "violates community guidelines and/or policies" of different sites to those social media platforms. It will report "urgent information" to the FBI and State Police.

The problem is that the state will determine which content is labeled MDM. Also concerning is how such determinations will be made and by whom. These terms and processes are not defined either in the contract or in any Oregon statute. Instead of focusing on the primary role of ensuring confidence and transparency in Oregon's elections, the Secretary of State's Office has chosen to monitor and encourage the censoring of citizens who voice legitimate concerns, some of which may question government practices or policies, on public platforms such as social media.

We reject the idea that any elected official or agency has the authority to constantly surveil, track, and attempt to suppress or manipulate the free speech of Oregon's citizens. We urge the Secretary of State's Office to halt implementation now and we call on the Legislature to address this pressing Constitutional issue during the 2024 session. Oregonians deserve a transparent government that prioritizes service to its people. Our government should never use secretive processes and AI programs to tip the scales by suppressing some citizens and augmenting only those who voice consensus with the state. Using artificial intelligence in this manner does nothing to improve confidence or security in our elections; instead, it will deepen the ongoing divide we are all working to heal.

We look forward to your reply.

Sincerely,

Court Boice

State Representative, District 1

Shelly sont Carris

Lucetta Elmer

State Representative, District 24

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Shelly Boshart Davis

State Representative, District 15

Christine Goodwin

State Representative, District 4

Christine Goodner

Ed Diehl

State Representative, District 17

Jeff Helfrich

State Representative, District 52

Tracy Cramer

State Representative, District 22

James Hieb

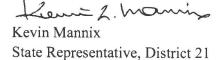
State Representative, District 51

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Bobby Levy State Representative, District 58



Rick Lewis State Representative, District 18





Emily McIntire State Representative, District 22



Lily Morgan State Representative, District 3

Virgle Osborne State Representative, District 2

Mark Owens State Representative, District 60



E. Werner Reschke State Representative, District 55

Anna Scharf State Representative, District 23

Brian Stout

State Representative, District 31

Kim Wallan Kim Wallan

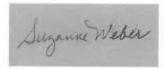
State Representative, District 6

Boomer Wright State Representative, District 9

Kim Thatcher

State Senator, District 11

Dennis Linthicum State Senator, District 28



Suzanne Weber State Senator, District 16

Cedric Hayden State Senator, District 6

David Brock Smith State Senator, District 1 Ful Sint

Fred Girod State Senator, District 9

Lynn Findley

State Senator, District 30