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MAGA turns on Costco after it sues Trump

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By [David Horsey](#)
Seattle Times cartoonist

I'm all for consumer boycotts. In our spend-it-while-you-can society, a boycott is sometimes the best way to make a statement about capitalist enterprises that enable one kind of injustice or another.

Sometimes boycotts work, often they don't and many times they are just silly. The MAGA crowd's current call for a boycott of Costco, the Issaquah-headquartered wholesale giant, falls into the third category.

[Costco is now the largest of many companies suing the Trump administration to retrieve tariff fees paid since the president declared an impulsive and erratic trade war on the rest of the world.](#) Costco is anticipating a U.S. Supreme Court ruling that many expect to declare Trump's biggest tariffs illegal and unconstitutional because they bypassed Congress through misapplication of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act.

In a different era, conservatives would have cheered for any private company that tried to claw back unfair tax payments from the federal government, but the MAGA movement is not really conservative, in the traditional sense. MAGA is, at its heart, a cult of personality. Thus, any attack on the cult leader is an attack on all.

There is certainly a bit of economic ignorance involved. MAGA folks willingly believe Trump's contention that extreme tariffs will boost the American economy and bring back jobs in industry, all paid for by foreign countries. That is an easily disprovable thesis, but, among Trump's supporters, facts and statistics do not matter, faith does — their faith in Trump.

That means Costco must be shunned and punished at great sacrifice to MAGA shoppers who will have to prep for Armageddon at some other store where they can buy their toilet paper and Coors Light in bulk.

See more of David Horsey's cartoons at: st.news/davidhorsey

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Trump's DOJ clown show rolls into Washington state

Dec. 5, 2025 at 10:55 am



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President Donald Trump's Justice Department is [suing 14 states, including Washington, in an attempt to get detailed personal information about every voter in those states.](#)

In total, 40 states have been asked to provide voter data, but only two super-red states, Wyoming and Indiana, have complied. Perhaps significantly, the 14 being sued are all deep blue or, at least, blue-leaning, states.

Washington Secretary of State Steve Hobbs, like so many of his peers around the country, has refused the DOJ's demand. Hobbs cites state law that shields personal information from public disclosure – items such as driver's license numbers and full dates of birth. He is offering up information that is public, including birth years, addresses, names and voting history, but that is not enough for Attorney General Pam Bondi.

“Accurate voter rolls are the cornerstone of fair and free elections, and too many states have fallen into a pattern of noncompliance with basic voter roll maintenance,” Bondi claims.

That sounds quite reasonable – if it were true. In fact, though, it's a canard that fails to hide the real impetus behind this grab for voter records. The only place where there are troubling problems with how elections are conducted in the United States is in the fevered imagination of the president of the United States.

Trump has been ranting about rigged elections, dead people on voter rolls,

noncitizens voting and the corruption of mail-in ballots ever since he lost his re-election bid in 2020. There is no proof of any of his wild accusations, particularly in a state like Washington that has had no hint of election scandal in modern times.

It is no surprise that, in filing the lawsuit against Hobbs and the state, DOJ lawyers failed to follow proper court procedures and have been ordered by a federal judge to clean up their act. Similar snafus are more the rule than the exception now that the once-respected Justice Department has become Trump's personal law firm.

Yet, no matter how many times DOJ lawyers are embarrassed in court struggling to turn Trump's tirades into something close to a legal argument, the president will keep demanding that the litigious clown show rolls on and on.

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