

From: [Roth, Sara](#)
To: [Public Records Task Force](#)
Subject: We need change.
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Attachments: [image001.jpg](#)

As a journalist at KGW, my colleagues and I order public records in order to do our jobs: Inform the public and hold the powerful accountable. We work every day to do the best we can with limited resources that shrink every year. We don't have an unlimited budget to buy public records, but that's exactly what the state asks us to do.

A few hundred dollars for one record, a few thousand for an email search. We all know this is not the true cost of this service. The cost is not only confusing, but it forces us to choose which stories to cover. I know we haven't uncovered stories just because the records request was too expensive.

None of this helps the public. The state is funded by taxpayers who deserve to have access to public records. Often, we are the people who facilitate that access. Please make public records truly public. Don't put up a paywall to the information that matters.

In a healthy society, people trust that the powerful will be held accountable. Let's make Oregon the best example of what a healthy society looks like.

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