

Congressional representative seat sought by State Senator Ripper

State Sen. Jack Ripper (D-North Bend) announced Thursday he will be a candidate for representative to Congress from the Fourth District. Ripper made the announcement at four different meetings of Democrats in southwestern Oregon.

Ripper is serving his first term in the Oregon State Senate. He served as Coos County's State Representative for two terms before becoming senator from Coos and Curry counties.

"Inflation is cheating the average person out of all the gains in the standard of living that have been made over the last thirty years. Dwindling purchasing power of the dollar, high interest rates, prohibitive medical costs, and unexplainable shortages, all have put the ordinary working family into an intolerable financial squeeze," said Ripper yesterday. "Each time you open your pocketbook you are reminded of why you deserve a change in Congress," he continued.

Ripper announced support of funding of secondary highways "if we are to save the small towns of the 4th District." Ripper believes the stability of these

towns needs to be encouraged to keep their economies from dwindling and their populations from leaving. Further Ripper believes the people of Oregon "cannot afford to have an energy crisis go unchecked with mills closed down and people unemployed" as is happening in southwestern Oregon.

"We need to subsidize our fishing industry so we can compete with the billion dollar



Jack Ripper

fishery that is being exploited by foreign fleets off our shores," Ripper continued. He finds "the destruction of this renewable resource" unacceptable to the "American policies of conservation."

Ripper is a teacher employed by the North Bend school district as a resource consultant. He is a former president of the North Bend Chamber of Commerce, a former president of the North Bend Lions Club, former chairman of the Planning Commission, and on the budget committee of the Port of Coos Bay.

While in the legislature, Ripper has served on the Ways and Means Committee, the State and Federal Affairs Committee, the Land Use and Environment Committee, and the Committee for Professional Responsibility. He has also served on the Emergency Board and on the Governor's Committee on Youth.

Ripper is married and the father of three children. He and his wife Nellie have two grandchildren. Mrs. Ripper is also an educator and is director of elementary libraries in North Bend.

Disrespect of environment?

McCall blasts Nixon request

By DAVE WOODSON
Of the Emerald

Gov. Tom McCall blasted President Nixon's request that government clean air standards be relaxed to cope with the so-called energy crisis and warned that the energy crunch "affords an opening for disrespect of the environment."

McCall, speaking Thursday afternoon before about a hundred members of the Oregon Association of Broadcasters, said that "asking for permission to ignore clean air standards is self-defeating. It's a statement that we can destroy the air—destroy people's health—so we can have business as usual."

Ten days ago, in a nationally televised message on the energy crisis, President Nixon asked Congress to provide authority for the lifting of clean air standards on a case-by-case basis if necessary to assure an adequate electrical energy supply for the nation.

Despite McCall's verbal slap on the wrist, the Oregon governor generally had praise for the Nixon energy message, saying that he thought it was a step toward the White House regaining believability with the American people and that if President Nixon will "drop his guard against the people trying to help him, he might yet lead the Republican party out of the wilderness."

McCall said in his keynote speech to the broadcast executives' meeting at the Valley River Inn, that the special session of the Oregon state legislature slated for early next year would probably last for about a month. But McCall added, "Once I bring the legislators to Salem, I'll have no control over the length of the session."

The special legislative session was required, according to McCall "because we didn't know what the federal government was

going to do to our budget."

One of the items on the agenda for the forthcoming special session is reconsideration of 15 bills that McCall vetoed at the close of the 1973 regular session.

McCall addressed himself Thursday to two of the bills that will be up for reconsideration: the proposal to create a three-member Public Utility Commission (PUC) and the financial disclosure bill for public officials.

Charging that the original bill to increase the membership of PUC to three was "lobbied through the legislature by ax-grinding utilities," McCall said he would fight any attempt to override his veto. He warned that a great deal of public support for the bill might develop during the special session because of the recent rate increases approved by Richard Sabin, the present commissioner.

McCall argued that the rate increase was justified because "growth and inflation were taking a tremendous bite out of the utilities." The governor said that the private utilities sold the bill to the public in the first place on the grounds that it was consumer protection legislation and that "they'll plow the same ground again."

But McCall added, "I intend to be a boulder in front of the plow."

On his highly controversial veto of the financial disclosure bill for public officials, McCall said that that action isn't "engraved in stone" and that he had already offered to recommend an override of that veto.

He said that the principle of the disclosure law was "sound and necessary" but that the bill was faulty because, among other things, it didn't include city officials and that it "demanded too much of a baring of financial souls by hundreds of members of boards, commissions and committees, many of whom draw no hay."

McCall said that for the past

four months, a committee that he appointed has been working on drafting an amendment to the vetoed legislation to make it equitable "as it applies to every state and local official from the rural fire district to the executive suite at the Capitol."

He said that if that can be accomplished, "giving us a strong, fair workable measure," he will support passage of the bill during the special legislative session.

McCall briefly addressed his future plans after his present term as governor is completed. The Oregon Republican said that he "had shut the door" on a possible United States Senate bid in 1974 but hastily added, "I haven't locked it."

"First I'm going to take a vacation," he said, "then I'm going to become an elder statesman—unless the job is already taken by the President of the United States."

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