

Atiyeh tells lawmakers its the 'last chance'

Tax and land use systems need revamping

SALEM (AP) — Gov. Vic Atiyeh today warned the Legislature that it faces its "last chance" to revamp the state's tax and land use planning systems.

The Republican governor, in his inaugural address to the 90 lawmakers at the beginning of his second term, referred to the narrow voter defeat last November of two measures.

One would have sharply limited property taxes, and the other would have abolished statewide land use planning.

"Instead of devastating the foundations of local government and discarding the land use achievements of a decade, Oregonians — in an historic vote — have given us another chance," Atiyeh said.

"But make no mistake: this is our last chance," the Republican governor said in his "state of the state" address marking the beginning of his second four-year term.

"We must make meaningful and lasting reforms in our runaway system of property taxation.

We must preserve our priceless achievements in statewide land use planning by improving the system."

The governor has proposed a \$346 million income tax increase and a limit on local property taxes.

He would eliminate the program under which the state pays about 30 percent of homeowner taxes. But he would expand the separate homeowner and renter relief program so house-

holds with up to \$30,000 annual income would qualify for relief. That program now is limited to households with less than \$17,500 yearly income.

"Without action to limit the appalling growth of property taxes, Measure 3 will be back," Atiyeh said in reference to the defeated ballot measure to limit property taxes. "And next time it will pass."

The governor also proposes to streamline and speed up the process under which city and county land use plans get state approval as conforming to statewide planning goals.

Atiyeh said he has supported statewide land use planning from the beginning but that "we all have felt the heat of anger and resentment that the process has sometimes created."

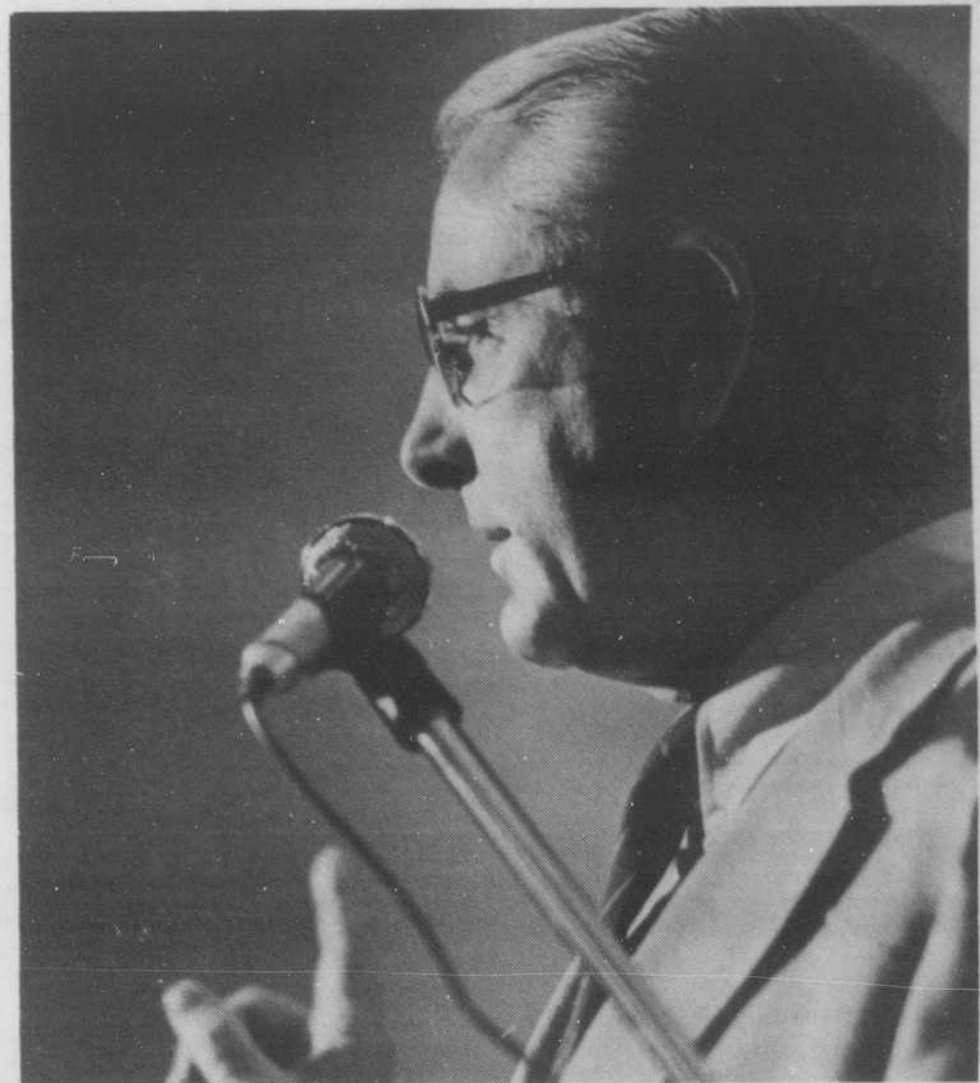
"The measures before you will make the system better, faster and less abrasive."

Atiyeh noted that his proposed \$3.2 billion general fund budget for the two-year period starting July 1 is dependent upon his tax increases.

"The recommendations are carefully crafted interwoven and interdependent," he said. "They must stand or fall... as a total package."

He also urged the lawmakers to make economic development and aid to higher education and the timber industry high priorities.

Atiyeh called for beefed-up state police efforts fight narcotics trafficking, expanded jail space and additional



Emerald photo

Atiyeh urged the lawmakers to make economic development and aid to higher education a high priority.

state help for district attorneys.

He also urged state action to protect the Columbia River Gorge.

"I believe that the people of the state not only want to restore Oregon's

economic health — they want with equal fervor to preserve and defend the special qualities that make our state unique, because Oregon is unique," Atiyeh said.

Soviets Continued from Page 1

reports praised the new leader as a hero of Communism and the future silencer of the "aggressor" (Soviet jargon for America).

About two weeks later, the Moscow news program "Time" lashed out at America for a half-hour, stating that the United States is producing nuclear weapons at an alarming rate.

Russian friends were upset by the broadcast, stating that the news program characteristically discusses Soviet agricultural production for the first half hour. They felt that the departure from the usual format may indicate that Andropov was attempting to establish a hard-line image on American arms production, which the Soviet broadcaster called "unacceptable and warlike on the part of the Pentagon."

In private, Muscovites stated in their typical "laughter through tears" humor, that they they did not view Andropov's

succession as "... the opening up of new and more glorious paths to Socialism" but as an opportunity to see more meat, fresh fruit and vegetables in the stores. They also expressed a strong hope that there would be no war with America.

Members of the intelligentsia felt that relations with America would be smoother because they were told that, "... Andropov was the sole member of the Politburo who opposed the invasion of Afghanistan..."

They also insisted that under Andropov's leadership, the KGB was "... the mildest it has ever been in our history, hardly the organization of terror that it was in Stalin's time..."

Therefore, the fact that Andropov was former head of the KGB and was now appointing old KGB cronies to high government posts shed no pessimistic light on their hopes for peace in the future.

Babcock voted post on RHGC

By Denise Waldron
Of the Emerald

Fred Babcock, assistant director of University housing and food service, has been appointed the new Housing Department representative to the Residence Hall Governance Committee.

Babcock assumed the duties of former representative Dick Romm, who has taken a leave of absence until August, at Monday's RHGC meeting. Babcock will continue as director of the food services department, a position he has held three years, in addition to his representative appointment by Housing Director Dan Williams.

Two other committee positions need to be filled, Babcock said. ASUO and Walton complex president's council are appointing replacements to their vacant representative positions, he said. The representatives should be appointed by next meeting when a new RHGC secretary will be selected from among committee members, Babcock added.

In committee business, Babcock presented two options of a new 19-meal, food-service proposal to be implemented next year. The RHGC is scheduled to give its option recommendation at the next meeting.

The first option would allow residents to eat brunch and dinner on Saturday and Sunday and would save \$12,000, Babcock said. The other plan would retain the current meal plan with three meals on Saturday and brunch and dinner on Sunday, resulting in an increase of \$11 per term per student next year, he said.

The Housing department is

trying not to raise the price of residence halls and favors the first option, Babcock said.

In other announcements, the RHGC will meet next Monday night for a special goal-setting session in Bean West conference room. The group is scheduled to discuss goals for the next two terms in areas of alcohol policy, student government structure, extra student revenues — money collected through such sources as vending machines — and an energy-efficiency plan.

The committee will discuss possible recommendations to improve ASUO structure, said Mark Baker, RHGC member.



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