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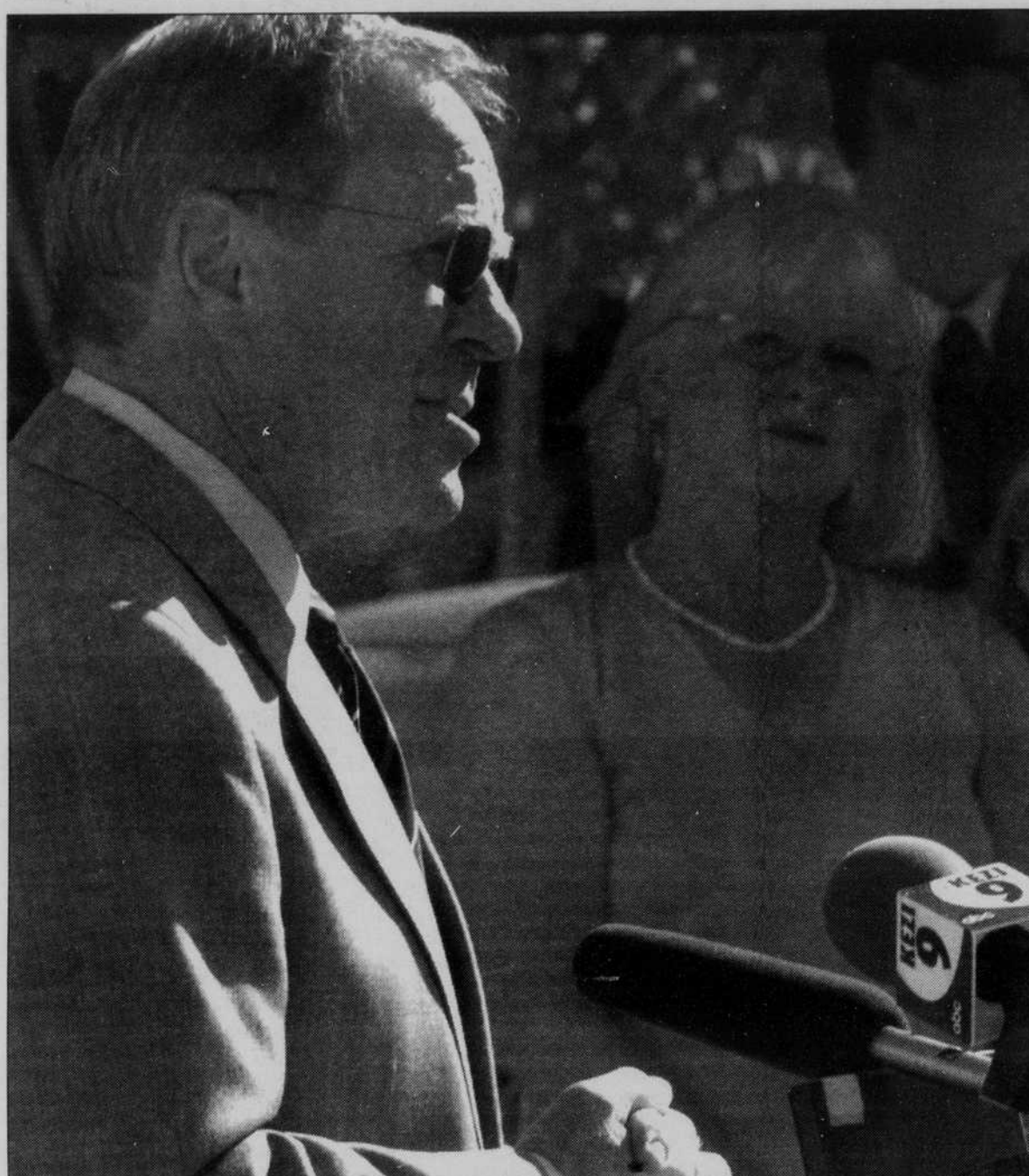


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AN ARMY OF ONE 



TIM BOBOSKY | PHOTO EDITOR

Mayor Kitty Piercy looks on as Gov. Ted Kulongoski talks about the future of Oregon and House Bill 3143.

Governor: Tour stresses improving economy

Continued from page 1

Businesses located within enterprise zones are eligible for three to five years of property tax exemptions of \$50,000 on buildings or major equipment investments within the zone.

Kulongoski, flanked by Eugene Mayor Kitty Piercy and City Councilman Floyd Prozanski, signed the legislation at Molecular Probes Detection Technology, a life science company in West Eugene, founded in 1975.

In late August 2003, Molecular Probes Detection Technology was sold to Invitrogen, which advertises itself as the "key partner in the global life science community." Instead of moving Molecular Probes Detection Technology out of state, Invitrogen kept the company in West Eugene, which is categorized as one of the 49 current enterprise zones.

According to Jack Roberts, executive director for Lane Metro Partnership, Molecular Probes Detection

Technology is one of a number of expanding businesses that should remain local. Enterprise zones help make this a possibility, Roberts said.

The governor's stop — one of three, including stops in Bend and Medford — was intended to signify his commitment to increasing the economic infrastructure of Oregon.

In Bend, Governor Kulongoski signed Senate Bill 82, which provides for a comprehensive review of the Oregon land-use system. In Medford Kulongoski was joined by Transportation Commission Chairman Stuart Foster and Aviation Commission Chairman Mike Burrill to discuss Senate Bill 71, also known as ConnectOregon, a follow up to the governor's 2003 transportation package. The bill will dedicate \$100 million to non-highway transportation projects including aviation, rail, marine and transit systems in order to improve congestion and increase delivery speed.

Overall, Kulongoski's tri-city tour

emphasized economic improvement and local company growth and retention.

"This was more about Oregon competing with other states than parts of Oregon competing with other parts of Oregon," said Roberts.

Enterprise zones encompass economically distressed areas. An enterprise zone may envelop a portion of a city or an entire city itself, as is the case with Springfield, according to Roberts.

"These zones create an incentive for new investment and job creation," said Roberts.

By creating a foundation for businesses to grow and an incentive for growing businesses to stay in state, tax revenues should increase, said Roberts.

Under current law, counties and cities apply to the Department of Economic and Community Development for enterprise zone designations. Enterprise zone designations come with a limit of 10 years.

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4290 OAK

Remodeled SE Eugene 2 bedroom, 1 bath duplex with single garage, new range, refrigerator, dishwasher, hookups, yard care. \$725+dep.



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Campus 3 bedroom, 1 bath home with single garage, range, refrigerator, hookups, yard care. \$1120+dep. No pets.



3995 E AMAZON

3 bedroom, 2 bath duplex in SE, single garage, wood fireplace, refrigerator, range, dw, w/d, yard care. \$950+dep. \$250 off move-in.



1695 HIGH

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1710 E 19TH

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