

Endorsements

Governor (Democrat)

One of the most difficult decisions Democratic voters will have to make is in the race for the Democratic nomination for governor. The three major candidates are all well-qualified and are concerned about the people of the state.



State Treasurer Jim Redden impresses us as the most responsive of the candidates. He has a proven record in the legislature, as State Treasurer and as a practicing attorney, yet his approach to the problems is one of listing and exploring alternatives before making the final decision. His interests are broad -- environmental protection, mass transportation, development of geothermal and wind energy, employment for all. His dedication to affirmative action is demonstrated by the fact that his department's minority employment has one of the greatest percentages of growth in state government.

We believe Jim Redden is a man of integrity, a man who has made the extra effort to listen to the Black community.

Governor (Republican)

Secretary of State Clay Myers opposes State Senator Victor Atiyeh for the Republican nomination for Governor of Oregon.



Atiyeh is an experienced legislator and businessman and is well qualified to serve as governor. He has not found it necessary to become involved in the Black community, so we have not had the opportunity to determine the reasons for his stand on particular issues, but we think the consequences of his proposals -- for capital punishment, against abortion, against floridation -- fell more heavily on minorities and on the poor.

Clay Myers, on the other hand, has been in constant communication with the Black community and although we might not agree with some of his actions, he does take the time to explain his position.

Myers has for many years been a proponent of equal rights and has been personally involved. He has hired Blacks in his department and is responsible for the appointment of others to other departments.

His personal integrity was demonstrated by his unpopular vote against the nomination of Spiro Agnew for Vice President at the 1972 Republican National Convention.

Myers clearly has expressed more interest in and concern for the minority community, and we believe that if he were elected governor, his interest would continue. We believe he would use the office to maximize minority involvement in government.

Court of Appeals

Judge Jacob Tanzer is seeking election to the judgeship to which he was appointed by Governor Tom McCall. Tanzer has earned respect for his hard work and commonsense judgement. As the first director of the state's Department of Human Resources, Tanzer received an insight into the everyday problems of Oregon's citizens. Although we have not always agreed with Judge Tanzer's policies, and particularly those in child care, he is by far the most qualified candidate. Coming from a "liberal" philosophy there is perhaps more possibility that Tanzer would look with equal fairness on any citizen that comes before him.

U.S. Senate

"Principles before politics" is, as always, the slogan of Wayne Morse, who seeks to return to the United States Senate. Although many would assume that Morse, at age 73, is too old to return to Washington, his 24 years in the Senate gives him experience that no other candidate can match.



Every Black person in Oregon has benefited from Morse's service in the Senate -- his sponsorship of Civil Rights Bills, his carrying more bills providing for federal aid to education than ever before in the history of the nation, and each with a non-discrimination rider; his sponsorship of OEO, manpower training, and welfare legislation; his involvement in legislation to provide a better life for the aging, the disabled, the poor. Morse was the first Senator to oppose the Vietnam war and was one of only two senators to vote against US involvement. His record of service for the voter is impeccable.

Morse warned against military involvement in SE Asia as he warned against the growing secrecy in government -- and, as usual, he proved to be right.

The next 6 years are important years to the nation, and Oregon could best serve the nation and its future by returning Wayne Morse to the Senate.

As for age, Morse's age is an investment on which the people can draw -- a "political bank account." There is much to say for the election of young and new faces -- but sometimes the wisdom and ability acquired through years of experience is invaluable and irreplaceable. It is better to elect a man you know can do the job than to take a chance on one who tells you he can.

3rd Congressional District

One of the most important positions to be filled is that of Congressman for the Third District, the seat which will be vacated by Edith Green.



There are several qualified candidates who could serve well, but from among them we chose State Senator Vern Cook. Cook, who describes himself as a "Civil Libertarian", has served in the Oregon House of Representatives and the Senate for 20 years, and has a solid record of support of individual rights.

He is concerned about discrimination and oppression -- not only against minorities but against the poor -- and his record shows this concern. We believe Cook to be intelligent, honest, and open-minded -- a man who does not claim to have all of the answers to the problems of the Black community, but a man who will attempt to find equitable solutions.

Harl Haas, currently District Attorney of Multnomah County, is also well qualified for this position but we believe he is needed in the position he now holds. Haas has brought innovative programs to the office, particularly on the areas of juvenile delinquency prevention and child abuse and in Consumer Protection.

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