

ATIYEH BOWS OUT

KPTV CH 12

12 JAN 87

10:06 PM

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This was the last day that Vic Atiyeh would walk the halls of the Capitol as Oregon's 32nd Governor and he spent the morning saying his goodbyes to the many people he has worked with.

GOVERNOR VIC ATIYEH: Thank you, Debbie.

DEBBIE, GOVERNOR'S AIDE: Thank you.

NEWSCASTER: A meeting of his personal staff was the only semblance of normalcy in what was for Vic Atiyeh a day for memories.

ATIYEH: I've spent some hours in that chair.

NEWSCASTER: Much of his staff has already left for other jobs. Atiyeh and wife Delores moved up to their Portland home over the weekend. The memories and memorabilia now packed in boxes. Atiyeh says he's learned the meaning of the term mixed emotions.

ATIYEH: We pulled together as a team and today is the last day. People close to me. We've gone through some very, very tough times together and some good times. But the tough times, you all share in that. And at the same time, it is time for me to leave and I'm looking forward to the future.

NEWSCASTER: Atiyeh's real family pulled together today, too, sitting for a family portrait including grandchildren in the Ceremonial Office. Then it was time for his final official act. Turning the keys to the office over to his successor. And finally that walk he'd taken twice before for his own inauguration. This time, however, to make his farewell address.

ATIYEH: To my fellow Oregonians, in this very special room and throughout the state of Oregon, I thank you for the gift you have given this son of an immigrant, to have served you as a Governor for a full eight years.

2-2-2-2      ATIYEH BOWS OUT, KPTV, 12 JAN 87

ATIYEH: You've shared your joys, your hopes, your tears, and your friendship with me. That has been wonderful, unforgettable, and a singular blessing.

NEWSCASTER: The now former Governor plans to start his own consulting company soon specializing in trade with the Far East and Victor Atiyeh will be my guest on Newsmakers this Saturday night at 10:30.

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HAGGARD COMMENTS

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NEWSCASTER JULIE EMYR: It is time now for a commentary. Marko Haggard is here. He knows that today marks the beginning of two important events in the Pacific Northwest. Marko?

COMMENTATOR MARKO HAGGARD: Well, Julie, as we saw, two legislatures began their 1987 sessions today. Now, while there was a bit more drama in Oregon because of the inaugural of a new, charismatic governor, there are common concerns and themes that both state legislatures and governors seek to address, and I shall try, this winter, to follow the important concerns in both states and to note comparisons when appropriate. And when possible, Oregonians and Washingtonians need to work and share together. We in the Pacific Northwest share many common concerns and needs.

Now, I've just watched the tv coverage this morning from Salem, and some things never change. There's always some choral group attempting to sing our atrocious state song, "Oregon, My Oregon". Now, I challenge you to sing it, to even remember the words; and there were the usual complaints about parking. Salem doubles the charge in the meters. As usual, good luck to any citizen who doesn't have an expense account.

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EMRY: Thank you, Marko.

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VIC ATIYEH, GOVERNOR OF OREGON: I'm very proud of what has happened in the last 28 years, certainly eight years as governor. I feel very good about the eight years in which I have served.

REPORTER K.C. COWAN: Governor Vic Atiyeh will soon say good-bye to politics. His has been a tenure of keeping the ship afloat, holding government services together while being forced to cut budgets and raise taxes. He says he would have liked to have Governor Tom McCall's years as state leader or Bob Straub's or even the next four Neil Goldschmidt will have.

ATIYEH: ...but still, I'm...those are mine, and those are the ones that were dealt to me.

COWAN: What Atiyeh was dealt was a huge recession just after taking office, with layoffs in the wood products industry and tremendous unemployment. He called more special legislative sessions than any other governor before him, each time to try and balance the budget, and yet, Atiyeh says he didn't just keep the pubs going, his administration accomplished a lot, such as abolishing the unitary tax to approve Oregon's reputation to foreign companies.

ATIYEH: It was important. Its real importance was that Oregon was the first state to do this. It was something internationally. We got congratulations from England so it wasn't just a matter of Japan, internationally ranking. So, it was sort of a -- what would it be -- sort of a flare in the sky for Oregon.

COWAN: The governor traveled throughout the Far East promoting the state. His trips brought him criticism, but also results, like the Fujitsu Plant in Hillsboro. Atiyeh was also criticized for a lack of leadership. House leaders now have different opinions on Atiyeh's abilities.

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REPRESENTATIVE LARRY CAMPBELL, R-HOUSE MINORITY LEADER: He was very hesitant to toot his own horn. He did a little better during his last few months of his administration, but the fact of the matter is that he did a good deal for this state during a very difficult time.

COWAN: Atiyeh's greatest regrets are not being able to come up with a solution to school closures and funding. His initiative to mandate new tax bases for all districts failed, and he'll try again this legislative session, and the sales tax he went out on a limb to support was not supported by the voters.

ATIYEH: It was a good plan, but I also recognize that that was not going to help my image a great deal, and it's very clear it didn't.

COWAN: How does Atiyeh want to be remembered? As a governor who cared about Oregonians.

ATIYEH: I'm very provincial about Oregon, and I don't apologize for it. I love my state. I love my people of Oregon. I like people. I want to help people. That's a major memory of my tenure as a governor.

K.C. COWAN, News 8.

BROWN: Governor-Elect Neil Goldschmidt will be sworn in during ceremonies tomorrow morning. Channel 8 will be there live beginning at 11:00. Steve?

KNIGHT: Thanks, Claudia. We'll all be watching.

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LAST HURRAHS

KOIN TV CH 6

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DOLORES ATIYEH: It's more than the end of eight years, because we've been going to Salem for 28 years. All right, here we go!

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STAFF MEMBER: ...that briefcase in the trunk?

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PHONE: (Ring)

STAFF MEMBER: Governor Atiyeh's office. Morning, Governor.

DONAHUE: A last staff meeting:

REPORTER: As you...as you leave office today, is there any message that you hope that you have gotten across in the last few years....?

DONAHUE: Last interviews with reporters:

STAFF MEMBERS: Governor, enjoyed it very much. Good luck.

ATIYEH: Bye bye.

DONAHUE: Last goodbyes:

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D. ATIYEH: I might look a little bit like Christmas. (Laughs)

V. ATIYEH: That's all right. Mike, did you have breakfast this morning? (indistinguishable)

D. ATIYEH: Come on, Kay, come on in.

DONAHUE: Atiyeh's family arrives for a last portrait in office. Grandchildren Sonja and Cody steal the show.

D. ATIYEH: Oh, look at that!

V. ATIYEH: What's that? What's that? What's that?

ATIYEH FAMILY: (Humming and background conversation)

DONAHUE: Outside, a transition is taking place. Atiyeh's secretary, Rebecca Cowan, will answer her last phone call at noon.

The governor-elect and his family arrive at the capitol. It's their first day.

V. ATIYEH: It's the key to my office here and the key to the state office. (indistinguishable)...put on ribbons. Wasn't a very fancy-looking deal.

NEIL GOLDSCHMIDT, GOVERNOR-ELECT: Governor, this is my son, Josh. You met Josh? This is my daughter, Becca.

REBECCA GOLDSCHMIDT: Hi.

V. ATIYEH: It's a great day, isn't it?

GOLDSCHMIDT: Good to see you. (Laughs) With a ribbon, huh? Not bad.

V. ATIYEH: Congratulations.

GOLDSCHMIDT: Thank you very much.

This is Ken Wood, my father-in-law.

V. ATIYEH: Very happy to meet you.

DONAHUE: Sixty-three year old Vic Atiyeh walks to the house as governor for the last time.

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SEN. JOHN KITZHABER (D) SENATE PRESIDENT: You'll escort Governor Atiyeh to the rostrum.

AUDIENCE: (Applause)

V. ATIYEH: In a few moments, I will lay down my responsibilities as a governor; but I shall never lay down my concern for all of you, nor my love of Oregon. God bless you all.

AUDIENCE: (Applause)

NEWSCASTER SHIRLEY HANCOCK: Emotional day for him.

DONAHUE: It was. In another part of that speech, he referred to his wife. He said "Thank you for putting up with me in my hours (sic) and for being", if he said (sic), "If I soared with eagles, it was because you were the wind beneath my wings." I guess the...the epitath to Governor Atiyeh has been given by many people, that he was a good, honest, decent man.

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BI-PARTISAN SUPPORT SOUGHT

KATU TV CH 2

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REPORTER MELISSA MILLS: Joining us now is our new Governor Neil Goldschmidt. Congratulations, first of all. One of the things we've heard a lot about today is bi-partisan support and a pledge for that. Do you think that is going to hold up with these provisions we've talked about?

GOVERNOR NEIL GOLDSCHMIDT: I think there are going to be fights. As some of the speakers said today, it will be sometimes arguments between parties, sometimes arguments between Houses, and just sometimes arguments between some people who represent us. But my sense is that on the basics of trying to get Oregonians more work and having a school system that doesn't close schools and some things like that, we're going to find a lot of agreement.

REPORTER: One of the things that was in the budget that a lot of people may not know about is you were talking about if Oregon does indeed hook-up with the federal tax system again, that since the state would get a windfall from that, you would rather not see that go to the general fund, but actually be returned in the form of a tax cut.

GOLDSCHMIDT: There are about \$300 million in the next biennium that would come to us because of changes in the federal tax law. I don't think that money is really the state government's to collect and spend for any purpose unless the voters were to approve it. So we will submit a proposal fairly soon, I hope. When I say we, I mean the leadership of the House and Senate and I to the members of both bodies and return it.

REPORTER MARK HASS: The budget you released today contained 29 percent basic school support. In other words, the state will pay 29 percent of its general fund to local schools. That is the same as it has been. Shouldn't it be higher to help schools out or is there another way?

GOLDSCHMIDT: No, it ought to be higher. But I think the point ought to be made, Mark, that it has been falling every year and every biennium. We had to spend a pretty healthy higher number just to keep it at 29 percent because, as everybody understands, the cost of educating children is not standing still.

GOLDSCHMIDT ( CONTINUED ) : And the ability of communities to collect property tax revenues is limited. So, I think the first step for us is to get a measure to the voters that stabilizes the local share and the second step after that is going to be to find another way to finance the state share.

REPORTER HASS: How is you first day in office?

GOLDSCHMIDT: Well. (Laugh) My first day in office couldn't have been nicer. I think Governor Atiyeh's speech today was one of the nicest things I've heard in a long time. It started us off on this new year and a new government with a tremendous feeling of gratitude about the class with which he's handled the transition and passed it over and we all feel good, I think, about the kind of feelings he had.

And I think the reception this afternoon and this party this evening are wonderful. Tomorrow I start at eight o'clock in the morning and it's we get going time. We have a lot of appointments to make and people to hire and jobs to do.

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NEWSCASTER GARY HILL: Although most of the state's attention has been focused on Goldschmidt since November, this was really the transition day for the state. There were some last minute things to be done today, tips on how to run the phones and similar things as Victor Atiyeh bowed out of state government.

This was the last day that Vic Atiyeh would walk the halls of the Capitol as Oregon's 32nd Governor and he spent the morning saying his goodbyes to the many people he has worked with.

GOVERNOR VIC ATIYEH: Thank you, Debbie.

DEBBIE, GOVERNOR'S AIDE: Thank you.

NEWSCASTER: A meeting of his personal staff was the only semblance of normalcy in what was for Vic Atiyeh a day for memories.

ATIYEH: I've spent some hours in that chair.

NEWSCASTER: Much of his staff has already left for other jobs. Atiyeh and wife Delores moved up to their Portland home over the weekend. The memories and memorabilia now packed in boxes. Atiyeh says he's learned the meaning of the term mixed emotions.

ATIYEH: We pulled together as a team and today is the last day. People close to me. We've gone through some very, very tough times together and some good times. But the tough times, you all share in that. And at the same time, it is time for me to leave and I'm looking forward to the future.

NEWSCASTER: Atiyeh's real family pulled together today, too, sitting for a family portrait including grandchildren in the Ceremonial Office. Then it was time for his final official act. Turning the keys to the office over to his successor. And finally that walk he'd taken twice before for his own inauguration. This time, however, to make his farewell address.

ATIYEH: To my fellow Oregonians, in this very special room and throughout the state of Oregon, I thank you for the gift you have given this son of an immigrant, to have served you as a Governor for a full eight years.

2-2-2-2     ATIYEH BOWS OUT, KPTV, 12 JAN 87

ATIYEH: You've shared your joys, your hopes, your tears, and your friendship with me. That has been wonderful, unforgettable, and a singular blessing.

NEWSCASTER: The now former Governor plans to start his own consulting company soon specializing in trade with the Far East and Victor Atiyeh will be my guest on Newsmakers this Saturday night at 10:30.

HAGGARD COMMENTS

KATU TV CH 2

12 JAN 87

5:31 PM

NEWSCASTER JULIE EMRY: It is time now for a commentary. Marko Haggard is here. He knows that today marks the beginning of two important events in the Pacific Northwest. Marko?

COMMENTATOR MARKO HAGGARD: Well, Julie, as we saw, two legislatures began their 1987 sessions today. Now, while there was a bit more drama in Oregon because of the inaugural of a new, charismatic governor, there are common concerns and themes that both state legislatures and governors seek to address, and I shall try, this winter, to follow the important concerns in both states and to note comparisons when appropriate. And when possible, Oregonians and Washingtonians need to work and share together. We in the Pacific Northwest share many common concerns and needs.

Now, I've just watched the tv coverage this morning from Salem, and some things never change. There's always some choral group attempting to sing our atrocious state song, "Oregon, My Oregon". Now, I challenge you to sing it, to even remember the words; and there were the usual complaints about parking. Salem doubles the charge in the meters. As usual, good luck to any citizen who doesn't have an expense account.

The zest and the zeal of Oregon's new governor permeated the atmosphere. Even the invitations sounded like a campaign speech. Now, we all hope there'll be an "Oregon Comeback", but we share with Speaker Vera Katz the sense of excitement and anticipation, but we also need to note her caution that expectations must be tempered with realism; and I hope to share with you some reality constraints in subsequent commentaries.

What struck me most today was the brief, impassioned, heartfelt speech by Governor Atiyeh: his eloquent, tearful tribute to his wife; the sadness he felt about leaving his post. If only Vic had been able to communicate this intensity, compassion and purpose during his term! He will not be remembered as vindictive and malicious, and that can rarely be said about any power seeker. So good luck and Godspeed to both the Oregon/Washington Legislatures. The Pacific Northwest needs a comeback, and, Julie, we might even infect Washington D.C.

EMRY: Thank you, Marko.

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ATIYEH SHARES THOUGHTS

KGW TV CH 8

11 JAN 87

5:02 PM

NEWSCASTER CLAUDIA BROWN: Governor Vic Atiyeh will close the door on his eight years in office when he hands the reins over to Democrat Neil Goldschmidt. Governor Atiyeh shared some of his thoughts with News 8 Legislative Reporter K.C. Cowan.

VIC ATIYEH, GOVERNOR OF OREGON: I'm very proud of what has happened in the last 28 years, certainly eight years as governor. I feel very good about the eight years in which I have served.

REPORTER K.C. COWAN: Governor Vic Atiyeh will soon say good-bye to politics. His has been a tenure of keeping the ship afloat, holding government services together while being forced to cut budgets and raise taxes. He says he would have liked to have Governor Tom McCall's years as state leader or Bob Straub's or even the next four Neil Goldschmidt will have.

ATIYEH: ...but still, I'm...those are mine, and those are the ones that were dealt to me.

COWAN: What Atiyeh was dealt was a huge recession just after taking office, with layoffs in the wood products industry and tremendous unemployment. He called more special legislative sessions than any other governor before him, each time to try and balance the budget, and yet, Atiyeh says he didn't just keep the pubs going, his administration accomplished a lot, such as abolishing the unitary tax to approve Oregon's reputation to foreign companies.

ATIYEH: It was important. Its real importance was that Oregon was the first state to do this. It was something internationally. We got congratulations from England so it wasn't just a matter of Japan, internationally ranking. So, it was sort of a -- what would it be -- sort of a flare in the sky for Oregon.

COWAN: The governor traveled throughout the Far East promoting the state. His trips brought him criticism, but also results, like the Fujitsu Plant in Hillsboro. Atiyeh was also criticized for a lack of leadership. House leaders now have different opinions on Atiyeh's abilities.

(more)



REPRESENTATIVE VERA KATZ, D-HOUSE SPEAKER: I think when he...Vic was in, the voters wanted a rest from the pro-active leadership and the constant activity of...of former Governor McCall and Bob Straub, and they wanted a breather. Vic Atiyeh provided that.

REPRESENTATIVE LARRY CAMPBELL, R-HOUSE MINORITY LEADER: He was very hesitant to toot his own horn. He did a little better during his last few months of his administration, but the fact of the matter is that he did a good deal for this state during a very difficult time.

COWAN: Atiyeh's greatest regrets are not being able to come up with a solution to school closures and funding. His initiative to mandate new tax bases for all districts failed, and he'll try again this legislative session, and the sales tax he went out on a limb to support was not supported by the voters.

ATIYEH: It was a good plan, but I also recognize that that was not going to help my image a great deal, and it's very clear it didn't.

COWAN: How does Atiyeh want to be remembered? As a governor who cared about Oregonians.

ATIYEH: I'm very provincial about Oregon, and I don't apologize for it. I love my state. I love my people of Oregon. I like people. I want to help people. That's a major memory of my tenure as a governor.

K.C. COWAN, News 8.

BROWN: Governor-Elect Neil Goldschmidt will be sworn in during ceremonies tomorrow morning. Channel 8 will be there live beginning at 11:00. Steve?

KNIGHT: Thanks, Claudia. We'll all be watching.

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LAST HURRAHS

KOIN TV CH 6

12 JAN 87

5:07 PM

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NEWSCASTER MIKE DONAHUE: Vic Atiyeh heard his last hurrahs today, a day that began before dawn at his Portland home. Photographer Bruce Collins and I met the Atiyehs in their garage, piled high with moving crates: memories about to be unpacked and added to the family album.

DOLORES ATIYEH: It's more than the end of eight years, because we've been going to Salem for 28 years. All right, here we go!

VIC ATIYEH, GOVERNOR: You know, you can't help but be a little emotional about it. It's impossible, you know...things that have happened, particularly in the last eight years, but we'll try to control it through the day. It's not going to be easy to do.

STAFF MEMBER: ...that briefcase in the trunk?

ATIYEH: Going to be awfully difficult to wake up in the morning and not have to go somewhere.

DONAHUE: Today was the last time for many things.

PHONE: (Ring)

STAFF MEMBER: Governor Atiyeh's office. Morning, Governor.

DONAHUE: A last staff meeting:

REPORTER: As you...as you leave office today, is there any message that you hope that you have gotten across in the last few years....?

DONAHUE: Last interviews with reporters:

STAFF MEMBERS: Governor, enjoyed it very much. Good luck.

ATIYEH: Bye bye.

DONAHUE: Last goodbyes:

D. ATIYEH: Oh, isn't that pretty? Hmm. Very nice. Yes, it is.

(more)

2-2-2-2 LAST HURRAHS, CH 6, 12 JAN 87

V. ATIYEH: That's beautiful. You look good on there. Green's right, too.

D. ATIYEH: I might look a little bit like Christmas. (Laughs)

V. ATIYEH: That's all right. Mike, did you have breakfast this morning? (indistinguishable)

D. ATIYEH: Come on, Kay, come on in.

DONAHUE: Atiyeh's family arrives for a last portrait in office. Grandchildren Sonja and Cody steal the show.

D. ATIYEH: Oh, look at that!

V. ATIYEH: What's that? What's that? What's that?

ATIYEH FAMILY: (Humming and background conversation)

DONAHUE: Outside, a transition is taking place. Atiyeh's secretary, Rebecca Cowan, will answer her last phone call at noon.

The governor-elect and his family arrive at the capitol. It's their first day.

V. ATIYEH: It's the key to my office here and the key to the state office. (indistinguishable)...put on ribbons. Wasn't a very fancy-looking deal.

NEIL GOLDSCHMIDT, GOVERNOR-ELECT: Governor, this is my son, Josh. You met Josh? This is my daughter, Becca.

REBECCA GOLDSCHMIDT: Hi.

V. ATIYEH: It's a great day, isn't it?

GOLDSCHMIDT: Good to see you. (Laughs) With a ribbon, huh? Not bad.

V. ATIYEH: Congratulations.

GOLDSCHMIDT: Thank you very much.

This is Ken Wood, my father-in-law.

V. ATIYEH: Very happy to meet you.

DONAHUE: Sixty-three year old Vic Atiyeh walks to the house as governor for the last time.

(more)

3-3-3-3 LAST HURRAHS, CH 6, 12 JAN 87

SEN. JOHN KITZHABER (D) SENATE PRESIDENT: You'll escort Governor Atiyeh to the rostrum.

AUDIENCE: (Applause)

V. ATIYEH: In a few moments, I will lay down my responsibilities as a governor; but I shall never lay down my concern for all of you, nor my love of Oregon. God bless you all.

AUDIENCE: (Applause)

NEWSCASTER SHIRLEY HANCOCK: Emotional day for him.

DONAHUE: It was. In another part of that speech, he referred to his wife. He said "Thank you for putting up with me in my hours (sic) and for being", if he said (sic), "If I soared with eagles, it was because you were the wind beneath my wings." I guess the...the epitath to Governor Atiyeh has been given by many people, that he was a good, honest, decent man.

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BI-PARTISAN SUPPORT SOUGHT

KATU TV CH 2

12 JAN 87

6:34 PM

REPORTER MELISSA MILLS: Joining us now is our new Governor Neil Goldschmidt. Congratulations, first of all. One of the things we've heard a lot about today is bi-partisan support and a pledge for that. Do you think that is going to hold up with these provisions we've talked about?

GOVERNOR NEIL GOLDSCHMIDT: I think there are going to be fights. As some of the speakers said today, it will be sometimes arguments between parties, sometimes arguments between Houses, and just sometimes arguments between some people who represent us. But my sense is that on the basics of trying to get Oregonians more work and having a school system that doesn't close schools and some things like that, we're going to find a lot of agreement.

REPORTER: One of the things that was in the budget that a lot of people may not know about is you were talking about if Oregon does indeed hook-up with the federal tax system again, that since the state would get a windfall from that, you would rather not see that go to the general fund, but actually be returned in the form of a tax cut.

GOLDSCHMIDT: There are about \$300 million in the next biennium that would come to us because of changes in the federal tax law. I don't think that money is really the state government's to collect and spend for any purpose unless the voters were to approve it. So we will submit a proposal fairly soon, I hope. When I say we, I mean the leadership of the House and Senate and I to the members of both bodies and return it.

REPORTER MARK HASS: The budget you released today contained 29 percent basic school support. In other words, the state will pay 29 percent of its general fund to local schools. That is the same as it has been. Shouldn't it be higher to help schools out or is there another way?

GOLDSCHMIDT: No, it ought to be higher. But I think the point ought to be made, Mark, that it has been falling every year and every biennium. We had to spend a pretty healthy higher number just to keep it at 29 percent because, as everybody understands, the cost of educating children is not standing still.

.....

GOLDSCHMIDT ( CONTINUED ) : And the ability of communities to collect property tax revenues is limited. So, I think the first step for us is to get a measure to the voters that stabilizes the local share and the second step after that is going to be to find another way to finance the state share.

REPORTER HASS: How is your first day in office?

GOLDSCHMIDT: Well. (Laugh) My first day in office couldn't have been nicer. I think Governor Atiyeh's speech today was one of the nicest things I've heard in a long time. It started us off on this new year and a new government with a tremendous feeling of gratitude about the class with which he's handled the transition and passed it over and we all feel good, I think, about the kind of feelings he had.

And I think the reception this afternoon and this party this evening are wonderful. Tomorrow I start at eight o'clock in the morning and it's we get going time. We have a lot of appointments to make and people to hire and jobs to do.

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