

THE GOVERNOR'S ACCOMPLISHMENTS FOR WOMEN AND MINORITIES

In 1979 Governor Atiyeh identified affirmative action and equal opportunity as top priorities within his administration. To accomplish this goal of fairness and equity throughout the system, Governor Atiyeh issued an Executive Order and Statewide Affirmative Action Plan that charged each state agency director with the responsibility of ensuring the implementation of affirmative action throughout the individual agencies.

During the Governor's tenure there have been more women and minorities appointed to upper level positions in state government than in any previous time.

	<u>1979-80 Females</u>	<u>1984-85 Females</u>
Salary Range 19+	1,822	2,294
Total Employees	31,304	27,400

	<u>1979-80 Minorities</u>	<u>1984-85 Minorities</u>
Salary Range 19+	371	439
Total Employees	31,304	27,400

Examples of significant minority appointments to executive service positions during the Atiyeh Administration include, but are not limited to, the Chair of Board of Parole; Administrator of Vocational Rehabilitation; Budget Supervisor, Executive Department; Assistant Director of Personnel, Human Resources Department; Assistant Administrator for Distribution, Oregon Liquor Control Commission; Director of State's Affirmative Action Office.

Some of the major appointments of females in upper level positions include Chief of Staff, Office of the Governor; Director Department of Commerce/General Services; Director of Executive Personnel; Chief of Hearings/Audit, Department of Revenue; Administrator Children's Services Division; several female judges including the first appointment of a female, Betty Roberts, to the Oregon Supreme Court; and the appointment of Mary Deits to the Court of Appeals.

The State's Affirmative Action program has been supported by major statewide conferences -- the most notable being "Equity in the 80's", chaired by the Governor's Office and co-sponsored by 52 non-profit and private corporations. The purpose of this Conference was to identify strategies to achieve equity in employment, education, law, the media, government and religion in the 1980's.

Because of the mission and purpose of the Equity Conference, several notable personalities were involved including Eleanor Holmes Norton, former Chair of the Equal Employment Opportunities Commission; and J. Paul McGrath, Assistant Attorney General of U.S. Department of Justice, representing President Ronald Reagan.

Three hundred and fifty persons attended the two day Conference. Co-sponsors of this Conference agreed to make the issues of equity a priority within their organizations.

Because of the broad support the Conference received from individuals and organizations, follow-up was believed to be essential.

KOIN-TV assumed a leadership role in planning the follow-up, which was a jointly sponsored media project by KOIN and the Oregonian. This two week focus by the major media in Oregon on equity issues culminated in KOIN and the Oregonian receiving the National Brotherhood Award given by the National Conference of Christian and Jews in September, 1985.

During the Governor's tenure he has made several visits to Oregon's major minority communities to establish and maintain dialogue with minority leaders. It was through these contacts and others that the Governor was able to mobilize support that resulted in the establishment of the Commission on Black Affairs, and the Commission on Hispanic Affairs -- a first for the State of Oregon. These Commissions were first established by Governor Atiyeh through an Executive Order and had no operating funds. With the Governor's leadership, legislation was introduced and passed that provided funding for the Commissions.

Governor Atiyeh is noted throughout the State of Oregon for his leadership on legislation that responded to acts of violence and hatred that resulted from racism and anti-semitism. In 1981 he recommended legislation to the Oregon legislative assembly that made acts of racial and religious harassment a Class C Felony. This legislation received the full support of civil rights and religious organizations throughout the State. It was passed and signed into law in August, 1981.

After Congress and the Oregon State Legislature established the third Monday in January as an official holiday to celebrate the life of the Reverend Martin Luther King, Jr., Governor Atiyeh charged the Oregon Commission of Black Affairs with the responsibility of planning a statewide event.

The first statewide celebration of Martin Luther King's birthday was held in the House Chambers on Monday, January 20, 1986. After a march around the Capitol, three hundred persons participated in a meaningful and moving program opened by Governor Vic Atiyeh.

The Governor's commitment to women's issues, health and fitness all came together in a highly successful conference sponsored by the Governor's Council for Health, Fitness and Sports. Five hundred persons participated in this two day leadership conference for women in Health and Fitness.

The conference was designed for women from government, business and industry, medicine and education to explore ways women can improve their health and fitness.

One of the last goals of the Atiyeh Administration is to initiate an effort that will result in the establishment of, retention or expansion of a business opportunity in Northeast Portland to directly respond to the high unemployment rate of minorities in Northeast Portland.

Economic Development Commission, Portland Development Commission and the North, Northeast Boosters are working with the Governor's Office to develop attributes and incentives for doing business in Northeast Portland. This effort along with a professional marketing program should result in a business opportunity being underway by November 1, 1986.