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ATTN: DOUG FRENGLE FOR: GERRY THOMPSON GOVERNORS OFFICE SALEM

FROM: DENNY MILES TAICHUNG

SIGNING COMPLETED. TEXT OF NEWS RELEASE FOLLOWS. RELEASE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE ON 24TH.

GOV. VIC ATIYEH SIGNED A PROCLAMATION THURSDAY (TAIWAN TIME) ADOPTING TAIWAN AS A SISTER PROVINCE WITH THE STATE OF OREGON.

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THE PROCLAMATION WAS SIGNED AT A SPECIAL CEREMONY IN THE PROVINCIAL CAPITAL OF TAICHUNG. ATIYEH IS IN TAIWAN MAKING BUSINESS CALLS ON OREGON CUSTOMERS AND PARTICIPATING IN THE COMMEMORATION OF THE 40TH TAIWAN RETROCESSION DAY.

IN HIS PROCLAMATION ATIVEH EXPRESSED THE WISH'' THAT THE PROVINCE OF TAIWAN WILL LIKEWISE ADOPT THE STATE OF OREGON'' AS A SISTER STATE.(A COPY OF THE COMPLETE PROCLAMATION TEXT IS ATTACHED.)

''I HAVE WANTED TO FORMALIZE OUR SPECIAL RELATIONSHIP WITH TAIWAN SINCE I BECAME GOVERNOR,''ATIYEH SAID,''TODAYS' SIGNING IS ONE OF THE GENUINE HIGHLIGHTS OF MY TERM AS GOVERNOR.''

IN RESPONSE TAIWAN GOV. CHIU GHUANG-HUAN SAID ''WE ARE MORE THAN WILLING TO BE A SISTER STATE WITH OREGON. WE WILL DO OUR BEST TO MAKE IT OFFICIAL AT THE EARLIEST POSSIBLE DATE.''

ATIYEH IS MAKING HIS THIRD TRIP TO TAIWAN. HE HAS HAD MEETINGS WITH JOHN H. CHANG, DIRECTOR, DEPT OF NORTH AMERICAN AFFAIRS. VINCENT C.SIEW, DIRECTOR GENERAL, BOARD OF FOREIGN TRADE, AND VICE PRESIDENT LEE TENG-HUI. THE GOVERNOR ALSO HAD HUMEROUS BUSINESS APPOINTMENTS INCLUDING MEETINGS WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF THE TAIWAN FLOU MILLS ASSOCIATION, CHINESE MARITIME TRANSPORT, TAIWAN POWER COMPANY, AND CHINA AIRLINES. TAIWAN IS OREGON'S NUMBER THREE TRAD-ING PARTNER.

GOV. ATIYEH LEAVES TAIWAN FOR DAMASCUS, SYRIA WHERE HE WILL PARTICIPATE IN A SPECIAL CONGRESS OF LEADERS FROM THE AMERICAS OF ARAB DESCENT. ATIYEH'S FAMILY CAME FROM SYRIA END OF RELEASE.

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