
**SELECTIONS FROM MAJOR SPEECHES OF
GOVERNOR NEIL GOLDSCHMIDT
1987-90**

**January 1990
Office of the Governor
Communications Office
State Capitol
Salem, Oregon 97310**

INAUGURAL ADDRESS

January 12, 1987

This is an occasion filled with the deepest feelings.

There is the love and pride that I have for the members of my family who are here today -- my wife, Margie, my parents, Margie's father, my brother, my children, all of whom give so much and mean so much to me.

There is the gratitude I feel for the tens of thousands of Oregonians who worked in and contributed to my campaign -- the people who launched the Oregon Comeback; and the appreciation I have for the committed Oregonians who did not support me during the campaign, but who have since come forward to close ranks and offer their help.

There is the respect I have for a woman of strength and determination -- Norma Paulus. You learn a lot about a person when you face them for a year on the campaign trail -- and everything I learned about Norma only increased my regard for her as a person and as a political leader.

There is my appreciation for a man who has spent his career on behalf of his state -- Vic Atiyeh. Over a span of 28 years, Vic has demonstrated his integrity, his decency, and his concern for our state. And today, Vic, we salute you for all you have given us.

There is my regard for the 90 men and women of the Legislature, each of whom has worked hard to listen and respond to the people of this state, each of whom has been chosen to help guide our state's future course.

And finally, there is the love I feel for Oregon -- for all that Oregon and the people of Oregon have given me and my family over all the years, and now for the opportunity to give some of that back through service in this office. There is no place on earth like our Oregon.

This occasion has always marked more than an election of our state's chief executive.

It is a constitutional reminder of civic duties owed -- and of democracy's honors bestowed upon all of us.

It is a day for prayerful acknowledgment of the legacies of caring and commitment left us by our predecessors. We know they were tested by adversity -- but more, their vision and values have earned our respect. Their bequest is an Oregon capable of ensuring education for all and providing security for all; caring for the weak, assisting the needy, sustaining the elderly; moving people and products efficiently; and conserving our best neighbor, the land, which nurtured them and now us.

And this bequest also leaves us generous choice and personal freedom -- giving us an Oregon in which towns, communities, and whole regions shout with pride about their own unique differences -- a diversity of kind and custom that all can celebrate.

We have received much as "A Gift Outright":

- From the early Oregonians a legacy of courage, determination, and pioneer grit -- the testimony of deep grooves worn into hard earth by their wagon wheels.
- From our great grandparents, who lost all they had built to Oregon's winter floods -- and stayed to rebuild -- a heritage of resilience and resourcefulness.
- And from the generation of parents and grandparents who stood in their bitter soup lines of the 1930's -- and then went on to build Timberline Lodge, Bonneville Dam, and so much more -- the pride of the indomitable Oregon spirit.

So much has been given. The balance we must earn. This is the tradition which connects us to those who came before; this is the bond of conscience we have with those born and yet unborn who will inherit the Oregon we build.

For, if this day represents continuity, still we know how different our world is from that of our forebears.

A new global economy has made obsolete our old national economic assumptions -- and threatens to leave us poorer. International trade issues hang over our workers, our businesses, our communities like a cloud of smoke from a forest fire, with the devastating blaze following close behind. In response, mergers, acquisitions, closures, and relocations centralize more American wealth and power in fewer organizations, fewer

hands, and in fewer and fewer cities. More and more communities are left without their own traditional locally-owned enterprises -- left without a home-base of economic opportunity -- and left with a feeling that all these changes only translate into powerlessness.

Like those Oregonians who came before, we must ask, what do we stand for?

What will we say? What will we do?

I believe we know.

I believe that some things are enduring. And I believe that, as in the past, the future can be earned by the hard choices we make today.

And so we will tell our educators that they will have the resources they need to teach -- that the learning they have to offer our children is, more than ever, the ladder to opportunity.

We will tell our artists and musicians whose visions become our mirrors and our memories -- that we are all enriched by the inspiration only they can offer us.

We will make a place of honor for the curious explorers among us -- the innovators and researchers -- because we need their insight to reach our most vital frontier -- knowledge.

We will nurture the talents of all among us, wasting none because of chance at birth which gives one darker skin; another some hardship, physical or mental; and yet another female gender. We need each to contribute, as each needs to find fulfillment.

We will build an economy that is a magnet for opportunity and an economy that attracts success. We will stake Oregon's claim to business profitability, and we will assert the manifold comparative advantages of all of Oregon.

We will tell our skilled workers that they are needed; and we will have the training for them and for those who come behind them to match the demands of the future; and we will not surrender their jobs to foreign workers.

We will proclaim for all to know that we in Oregon still keep our streets and schoolyards secure in fashion that meets our traditional standards of safety and justice.

We will treat Oregon's living legacy -- the land, the air, the ocean, rivers, and streams -- like wise stewards; and we will carry that message to the highest councils of the land to keep others from destroying our state's natural heritage.

We will tell our children that their learning is assured and that work is available -- here, at home, in Oregon.

And we will tell each other that we believe in each other -- in God, in ourselves, our families, our neighbors; and that, as partners in the work that lies ahead, we have the capacity to help each other by summoning from each the best that each has to offer.

I live in Oregon.

It infuses my being. It shapes my values, affects my outlook and -- above all -- leaves me few excuses.

From Oregon each of us has received much.

Now, from me, from all of us, Oregon deserves in return everything she has given, everything she needs. No constituent's rationale, no lobbyist's plea, no single group's majority of the moment, can subtract from that total commitment.

The only special interest is our common interest in our children's future. We earn a clear conscience by coming together and working together, satisfied only when we have done our best for Oregon. For we are trustees of a shared asset -- this place, Oregon. No single individual among us can claim this trust -- but all are welcome as trustees who faithfully apply for service. All ideas, energies, and commitments are needed.

For now it is our time -- our turn to say to each other and to our children -- that we are empowered, we are resolute, and we will act.

~~It is time for a pledge to Oregon. And I make mine today and for so long~~
as I may serve her:

- I pledge myself to Oregon and to the future we can create together -- of more opportunity and more wealth for all of Oregon and for each Oregonian.
- I pledge my commitment to each Oregonian, to the opportunity that each individual deserves to fulfill his or her own aspirations -- for by each individual success, we all succeed.
- I pledge myself to the promise of work as fundamental to the independence of each Oregonian.
- I pledge myself to work with each Oregonian who joins to create the new possibilities that come only from partnerships.
- I pledge that the Oregon we leave our children will be enhanced and enriched and in no way diminished by the decisions we make and the work we do.

This is our pledge, our duty.

It will require my own best effort -- and it will require the talents, energies, and creativity of each Oregonian as vital to our shared success.

In this service, each of us will be measured, each tested. I expected it -- I welcome it. On the days on which I am seen to fail or on a day on which I am seen to succeed, I hope my values and vision will be the

same. For if the value of ideas, of hard work, of human enterprise, of public service, of our system of laws, of human kindness, infuses every choice we make, in the end our mistakes will be fewer and may be forgiven; and our successes may be lasting.

By the next time Oregonians assemble for this occasion, we will know how faithfully we have kept our pledge -- and so kept faith with Oregon. All will come in time to judge -- not our purpose or resolve -- but our product. If there is more hope, more work, more choice, more opportunity -- Oregon will judge us well.

Until then, let us join hands to do the work that is at hand. Let us share the labor and the joy that is our special portion as Oregonians. And to all of us, good luck, great effort, and God's speed into the Oregon that we can build together.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Neil Goldschmidt", with a horizontal line drawn underneath the name.

Neil Goldschmidt
Governor

GOVERNOR NEIL GOLDSCHMIDT'S
1988 STATE OF THE STATE ADDRESS

BEFORE
THE PORTLAND CITY CLUB

JANUARY 15, 1988

IT IS CUSTOMARY IN A STATE OF THE STATE ADDRESS FOR A GOVERNOR TO RECITE A LAUNDRY LIST OF ACCOMPLISHMENTS FROM THE PAST, FOLLOWED BY A WISH LIST FOR THE FUTURE. I INTEND TO DO NEITHER. INSTEAD, I WOULD LIKE TO TALK TODAY ABOUT WHO WE ARE AS OREGONIANS AND WHERE THIS STATE IS HEADED IN THE FINAL YEARS OF THIS DECADE.

IN MY FIRST YEAR AS GOVERNOR, I TRAVELED A GREAT DEAL ACROSS THIS LAND THAT WE LOVE SO MUCH. AND MY CONVICTION THAT OREGON IS A UNIQUE PLACE ON EARTH, A PLACE TO BE TREASURED AND PROTECTED, HAS DEEPENED.

THE STORIES WE TELL OURSELVES AND OTHERS ABOUT WHO WE ARE BEGIN WITH THE LAND AND HOW WE FEEL ABOUT IT. THE LAND FILLS OUR SENSES; ITS GIFTS SUSTAIN US; IT TOUCHES OUR DEEPEST SPIRITUAL BELIEFS; IT CONNECTS US WITH THE HISTORY OF OUR PLANET AND THE HUMAN RACE'S JOURNEY UPON IT.

TOM MCCALL ONCE SAID, "IT IS THE PLACE OF OREGON THAT MEANS THE MOST. WE MUST, FIRST AND FOREMOST, CHERISH THE PLACE. ALL OTHER GOOD THINGS WILL FOLLOW IF WE RECOGNIZE THE SPECIAL BEAUTY OF OREGON FIRST IN ALL OUR PLANNING; IF WE REVERE THE MAGIC; IF WE PROTECT THE QUALITY."

HOW DEEPLY WE BELIEVE THOSE WORDS. HOW HONESTLY WE HAVE LIVED THEM. YET THEY ARE INCOMPLETE. ALL GOOD THINGS WILL NOT NECESSARILY FOLLOW UNLESS WE RECOGNIZE THE HUMAN FACE IN THE LANDSCAPE; UNLESS WE REVERE THOSE WHO GIVE OF THEMSELVES; UNLESS WE PROTECT THE DISPOSSESSED.

OUR MEASURE OF OURSELVES REACHES HIGH - ELEVATED NOT ONLY BY STANDARDS OF EXTRAORDINARY PERSONAL EXAMPLE AND ACHIEVEMENT, BUT BY OUR TRADITIONS OF INDEPENDENCE, NEIGHBORLINESS, AND CARING THAT CAN BE FOUND IN EVERY PART OF OREGON AND AMONG EVERY AGE GROUP OF OUR CITIZENRY.

OREGON IS BETTER FOR LOAVES AND FISHES - AND FOR EVERY
VOLUNTEER AND GOVERNMENT EFFORT WE ARE MAKING TOGETHER TO KEEP
OUR ELDERS - OUR PARENTS - OUT OF NURSING HOMES - LIVING LIVES
OF INDEPENDENCE AND DIGNITY IN THEIR OWN HOMES.

OREGON IS BETTER OFF BECAUSE MORE OF OUR MENTALLY RETARDED
CITIZENS CAN FIND THE HUMANE CARE THAT HELPS THEM REACH THEIR
FULL POTENTIAL IN THEIR OWN COMMUNITIES.

OREGON IS BETTER OFF WHEN CHILDREN ARE BORN HEALTHY - AND
WILL GROW STRONG AND INDEPENDENT - BECAUSE WE CARED ENOUGH THAT
THEY HAVE PRENATAL CARE.

OREGON IS BETTER OFF WHEN OREGONIANS MAKE IT SO.

PEOPLE LIKE ESTHER MCGINNIS, VOLUNTEER AND FOUNDER OF THE
LOAVES AND FISHES S.W. CENTER. ESTHER HAS BEEN A MEALS ON
WHEELS DRIVER FOR 15 YEARS. MAKE THAT TWO WHEELS, BECAUSE

ESTHER MAKES HER DELIVERIES ON A HONDA TWINSTAR MOTORCYCLE...60
DELIVERED EACH DAY TO PEOPLE'S HOMES. MORE THAN 9,000 MEALS IN
HER CAREER. ESTHER NOT ONLY HELPS THE ELDERLY STAY IN THEIR
OWN HOMES, SHE FIGHTS FOR THEIR RIGHTS. IN FACT, WHEN I WAS
MAYOR, ESTHER MARCHED ON CITY HALL TO MAKE SURE THAT
TRANSPORTATION SERVICES FOR SENIORS WERE PROTECTED. (INTRODUCE
ESTHER)

PEOPLE LIKE THE REV. JOHN JACKSON, AN OUTSTANDING LEADER
IN THE ALBINA MINISTERIAL ALLIANCE AND IN N.E. PORTLAND FOR
OVER 20 YEARS. AND NOW HE IS BRINGING HIS ENORMOUS GENEROSITY
OF SPIRIT TO BEAR ON PUTTING TOGETHER AN INNOVATIVE NEW PROGRAM
FOR KIDS...ONE THAT WILL DEVELOP COMMUNITY SUPPORT SYSTEMS TO
HELP MINORITY YOUTH IN FOSTER CARE FIND PERMANENT HOMES. THIS
IS A MAN WHO HAS DEVOTED HIS LIFE TO FIGHTING FOR HUMAN RIGHTS
AND HUMAN DIGNITY. (INTRODUCE REV. JACKSON)

PEOPLE LIKE DAVE OHM, ASSISTANT VICE PRINCIPAL AT ROSEBURG HIGH SCHOOL. DAVE WORKS WITH THE GATEWAYS PROGRAM FOR ALCOHOL AND DRUG ABUSE IN ROSEBURG. WHEN I VISITED THERE, I TALKED WITH KIDS WHO HAD SMOKED MARIJUANA DAILY; CHILDREN WHO WERE ADDICTED TO CRACK AND METHAMPHETAMINE -- WHO HAD DEALT DRUGS TO SUPPORT THEIR HABIT. BUT THEY HAD TURNED THEIR LIVES AROUND THROUGH THIS PROGRAM, AND I ASKED THEM, "WHAT WAS IT THAT MADE YOU WANT TO ACCEPT HELP?" AND THEY ALL GAVE ME THE SAME ANSWER: DAVE OHM. HE DRAGGED THEM INTO THE PROGRAM AND HE STAYED BY THEIR SIDE. HE WAS THE ONE WHO LET THEM KNOW THERE IS A PLACE FOR THEM IN THIS LIFE." (INTRODUCE DAVE OHM)

PEOPLE LIKE ESTHER MCGINNIS, REV. JACKSON AND DAVE OHM ARE OREGON.

IT IS HERE, MORE THAN ANY OTHER PLACE, WHERE INDIVIDUAL EFFORT CAN MOVE A COMMUNITY OR A STATE; WHERE COMMON CONVICTION AND COMMUNITY ACTION CAN SHAPE THE FUTURE. IF INDEED THAT IS TRUE OF THIS PLACE CALLED OREGON, IT IS ONLY BECAUSE OF THIS PEOPLE CALLED OREGONIANS.

YOU WILL HEAR ME SAY THIS AGAIN AND AGAIN, FOR I BELIEVE IT NOW MORE THAN AT ANY TIME SINCE I WAS BORN HERE: WE ARE OREGON!

WHEN WE WERE IN DANGER OF LOSING PART OF OUR PRECIOUS NATURAL HERITAGE, WE DECLARED THE BEACHES TO BE PUBLIC PROPERTY. WHEN WE WERE IN DANGER OF DROWNING IN A SEA OF LITTER, WE PASSED THE BOTTLE BILL. WHEN UNCONTROLLED GROWTH WAS THREATENING TO SWALLOW UP OUR FARMLANDS, WE ADOPTED LAND USE LEGISLATION. AND WHEN THE WILLAMETTE RIVER WAS TURNING

INTO A OPEN CESSPOOL, WE CLEANED IT UP. TIME AND TIME AGAIN
THROUGHOUT OUR HISTORY, OREGONIANS HAVE RISEN TO THE
CHALLENGE. WE HAVE BEEN GOOD STEWARDS OF THE LAND.

AND NOW IT IS TIME FOR THIS GENERATION OF OREGONIANS TO
MEET OUR CHALLENGE: TO BECOME STEWARDS OF THE CHILD. THAT WE
GUARANTEE TO EVERY CHILD IN EVERY REGION OF OUR STATE A GREATER
CHANCE FOR A DECENT LIFE -- A LIFE DEFINED BY HEALTHY MINDS AND
BODIES AND BY THE DIGNITY THAT COMES FROM PROVIDING FOR ONESELF.

AS CAREFULLY AS WE HAVE USED AND PRESERVED, AS
PASSIONATELY AS WE HAVE CARED ABOUT OUR FORESTS, SO MUST WE
HUSBAND AND HARVEST THE NEW GROWTH OF TALENT AND HOPE THAT LIES
WITHIN THE NEXT GENERATIONS. IF FOR NO OTHER REASON, IT IS IN
OUR OWN SELF INTEREST.

WHO WILL BE PREPARED FOR THE HIGHLY TECHNICAL JOBS OF
TOMORROW THAT ARE REPLACING THE LABOR INTENSIVE JOBS OF
YESTERDAY? WHO WILL PAY THE TAXES TO SUPPORT THE SPECIAL NEEDS
OF THOSE 75 YEARS AND OLDER -- A POPULATION GROUP THAT IS
GROWING 12 TIMES AS FAST AS THE GENERAL POPULATION? WHO WILL
TEACH AND PREACH, INVENT AND SERVE, CRAFT AND COMPOSE? WHO
WILL LEAD AND FOLLOW, DEFEND AND HONOR OUR NATION?

OUR CHILDREN...

AND WE MUST PREPARE THEM THROUGH EDUCATION.

OUR HISTORY REFLECTS OUR DEEP COMMITMENT TO LEARNING.
AMERICA'S FIRST WESTERN COLLEGE, WILLAMETTE UNIVERSITY, WAS
FOUNDED IN OREGON IN 1842.

IN 1849, TEN YEARS BEFORE STATEHOOD, THE TERRITORIAL LEGISLATURE SET UP A FREE SYSTEM OF PUBLIC SCHOOLS, CREATED A COMMON SCHOOL FUND, AND LEVIED A TAX FOR THE SUPPORT OF THE COMMON SCHOOLS.

THE LADDER WAS THERE, AND FOR THOSE DOGGED ENOUGH TO CLIMB IT, EDUCATION WAS THE PATH OF PROGRESS.

WE OWE IT TO OURSELVES AND TO FUTURE GENERATIONS TO ENSURE THAT THE LADDER IS SECURE -- AND THAT IT REACHES AS HIGH AS THE MOST TALENTED AND GIFTED AMONG US CAN CLIMB.

IT IS NOT WITHIN OUR POWER TO PREDICT WHO WILL CLIMB HIGH TO CREATE THE IDEAS THAT CREATE NEW JOBS. IT IS WITHIN OUR POWER TO ENSURE EVERY CHILD IN EVERY REGION OF THIS STATE A CHANCE TO GO AS FAR AS THEY CAN.

IF THIS ASPIRATION IS TO BE FULFILLED WE MUST REMOVE EVERY POSSIBLE OBSTACLE, NOT THE LEAST OF WHICH IS THE FINANCIAL STABILITY OF OUR K-I2 SCHOOLS. BY THIS SUMMER'S END WE WILL HAVE FROM OUR CITIZENS SCHOOL FINANCE COMMISSION, PROPOSALS TO ACHIEVE MUCH OF THIS GOAL.

BUT AS DIFFICULT AS SCHOOL FINANCE HAS BEEN, OUR CHILDREN FACE A GREATER ASSAULT ON THEIR HOPES, SKILLS AND BEST INSTINCTS.

A 1985 STUDY FOUND THAT OREGON STUDENTS EXPERIMENT MORE AND AT AN EARLIER AGE WITH DRUGS THAN STUDENTS NATIONALLY.

CHILDREN WHO SHOULD FIND ESCAPE IN BOOKS AND ON FOREST TRAILS AND BEACHES ARE TOO OFTEN FINDING ESCAPE IN DRUGS. AND

IF WE CHOOSE TO SAVE THE EXPENSE OF HELPING THEM NOW, ARE WE AVOIDING REAL COSTS? NO. PAY NOW OR PAY LATER FOR THE CONSEQUENCES OF CRIME OR MENTAL DISORDERS.

A STUDY IN OREGON ON THE BACKGROUND OF ADULT FELONS TRIED TO FIND THE COMMON DENOMINATOR THAT MIGHT EXPLAIN THEIR ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOR. TWO-THIRDS HAD BEEN ABUSED AS CHILDREN. CHILD ABUSE IS THE SINGLE MOST POWERFUL PREDICTOR OF ADULT CRIMINAL BEHAVIOR.

AND LAST YEAR, THERE WERE ALMOST 14,000 REPORTED VICTIMS OF CHILD ABUSE IN OREGON.

OUR PRISONS ARE OVERFLOWING WITH THE PRODUCTS OF DRUGS AND ABUSE.

WE WILL BUILD MORE PRISON CELLS BECAUSE THEY ARE NEEDED,
BUT IF THIS IS ALL WE DO, THEY WILL ALWAYS BE FULL.

THE PROPORTION OF OREGON MALES UNDER THE SUPERVISION OF
THE CORRECTIONS DIVISION IN 1973 WAS ONE IN 87. IN 1985 IT WAS
ONE IN 40. IN THE YEAR 2000, IF PRESENT TRENDS CONTINUE, IT
WILL BE ONE IN 20.

IS THERE ANY GREATER DELUSION THAN PLACING ALL OF OUR
FAITH IN MORE PRISON CELLS AND IN REHABILITATING YOUNG ADULT
CRIMINALS, WHILE LEAVING THEIR YOUNGER BROTHERS AND SISTERS
ILLITERATE, HOMELESS, ABUSED, POSSIBLY DRUG ADDICTED AND
DESTINED TO JOIN THEM IN OUR INSTITUTIONS?

WE ARE IN A WAR FOR THE HEARTS AND MINDS OF OUR KIDS. IT
IS NOT A WAR WE CAN WIN WITH WEAPONS OF SELFISHNESS AND
MISGUIDED RHETORIC ABOUT THE LIMITS OF GOVERNMENT.

OUR VICTORY WILL BE DETERMINED BY HOW WELL WE INVEST AS MUCH AS BY THE AMOUNT WE INVEST.

THE STUDENT RETENTION INITIATIVE IS NOT ABOUT STATE SPENDING, FOR ITS BUDGET IS RELATIVELY SMALL. IT'S ABOUT MAKING IT POSSIBLE FOR COMMUNITIES TO REACH OUT TO YOUNGSTERS WHO NEED HELP...IT'S ABOUT STANDING UP AND SAYING THAT IT IS WRONG TO WASTE OUR YOUNG PEOPLE'S LIVES BY DOING NOTHING TO HELP THEM STAY IN SCHOOL. THE INITIATIVE'S COMMITMENT TO A GOAL OF 90% OF ENTERING PRIMARY STUDENTS GRADUATING FROM HIGH SCHOOL, OR BEING OTHERWISE PROPERLY PLACED, IS THE MOST REMARKABLE EFFORT MADE ACROSS SCHOOL, SOCIAL SERVICE, LOCAL GOVERNMENT, AND STATE GOVERNMENT BOUNDARIES IN OUR RECENT HISTORY.

FIGHTING CHILD ABUSE AND DRUG ADDICTION IS NOT ABOUT STATE SPENDING, IT'S ABOUT SAVING KIDS' LIVES AND STOPPING THE RISING SPIRAL OF CRIME THAT IS DRAINING OUR RESOURCES AND SAPPING OUR SPIRIT.

I SAID EARLIER THAT THE STORY OF WHO WE ARE BEGINS WITH THE LAND. BUT THE STORY DOES NOT END THERE. IT ENDS WITH THE PEOPLE OF OREGON...PEOPLE OF QUALITY, STRENGTHENED BY COMMUNITY, ENRICHED BY THE NOTION THAT CARING FOR ONE'S NEIGHBOR IS AS ESSENTIAL TO LIVING THE GOOD LIFE AS CLEAN AIR AND RUNNING STREAMS.

WE ARE OREGON. LET THIS BE OUR GUIDE FOR THE PRESENT AND OUR VISION FOR THE FUTURE.

IT IS THE REASON WE WILL FIX SCHOOL FINANCE AND GET ON
WITH THE EXCITING AGENDA OF EDUCATIONAL EXCELLENCE.

IT IS WHY WE WILL NO LONGER CONDEMN THE MENTALLY ILL TO
WANDER HOMELESS ON THE STREETS OF OUR CITIES...

IT IS WHY WE WILL REACH INTO OUR UNIVERSITY SYSTEM AND
RAISE UP TO WORLD VIEW THOSE PARTS AND PROGRAMS THAT CAN BE
TRULY GREAT AND CAN DRAW TO OREGON FURTHER GREATNESS.

IT IS WHY WE PURSUE REGIONAL ECONOMIC STRATEGIES. NOT FOR
GIVING OUT THE LITTLE STATE MONEY AVAILABLE, BUT TO EMPOWER
OREGONIANS WHEREVER THEY LIVE TO FIND COMMON PURPOSE AND,
THROUGH COMMON PURPOSE, TO LIFT THEMSELVES. WE DO IT BECAUSE
IT IS FAIR.

IT IS WHY WE CLEAN UP POORLY CONCEIVED AND BADLY MANAGED WORKERS COMPENSATION AND VETERANS' LOAN PROGRAMS -- NOT TO TURN OUR BACKS ON THE INJURED OR THOSE WHO SERVED OUR COUNTRY, BUT BECAUSE BADLY RUN PROGRAMS EAT RESOURCES THAT BELONG TO THE BENEFICIARIES, AND ERODE PUBLIC CONFIDENCE IN THE LEGITIMATE PUBLIC MISSION.

AND IT IS WHY WE SEE IN OUR PAST WHAT OUR PARENTS KNEW -- THAT OUR FUTURE WILL ALWAYS BE IN OUR CHILDREN.

ALL OF THIS CHALLENGES US TO SET LOFTY GOALS, TO COME TOGETHER IN TRULY REMARKABLE EFFORTS.

THERE IS TIME BEFORE US TO EXPLORE THOSE EFFORTS. THERE IS ROOM FOR ALL TO JOIN IN SHAPING THE ENDEAVOR. I WILL HAVE MORE TO SAY WHEN I CONVENE IN FEBRUARY ALL THE PEOPLE WHO SERVE ON OREGON'S CITIZEN BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS.

IN FEBRUARY AND IN THE MONTHS TO COME I WILL BE TALKING MORE ABOUT CRIME, EDUCATION AND A CHILDREN'S AGENDA. BUT FOR TODAY, IT IS ENOUGH THAT WE LOOK AT OREGON AND SEE OURSELVES. IT IS ENOUGH THAT WE TAKE TO HEART THIS ESSENTIAL: IT IS NOT THE SETTING IN WHICH WE LIVE, IT IS THE LIFE WE GIVE TO THAT SETTING THAT DISTINGUISHES US.

OUT OF THIS CONVICTION, OUT OF THE BONDS FORGED BY COMING TOGETHER TO BUILD A BETTER LIFE FOR US ALL, A STRONGER OREGON WILL EMERGE.

AN OREGON THAT ONE DAY, WITH PRIDE, WE WILL BEQUEATH TO
OUR CHILDREN.

AND IN THEIR TIME, AND IN THEIR SEASON, THEY WILL BE ABLE
TO LOOK BACK ON US AND SAY, "WE ARE THE SONS AND DAUGHTERS OF
GIANTS."

STATE-OF-THE-STATE ADDRESS

TO THE

65TH LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY



A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read "Neil Goldschmidt", is positioned above the printed name.

NEIL GOLDSCHMIDT

GOVERNOR

JANUARY 9, 1989

When I took the oath of office in 1987, I spoke of my high regard for the ninety men and women of the Legislature. I asked them to join with me to create more work, more choice, more opportunity and more hope for Oregonians.

One way of measuring our progress toward that goal is through statistics. For example:

- The 1988 average unemployment rate for Oregon will be around 5.9%, the lowest in 19 years...
- The annual job growth rate is expected to be the highest in four years, and should rank Oregon among the top ten states in the country...
- And 1988 saw the highest number of jobs created in nearly a decade.

These are the kind of numbers that make politicians feel good -- and make everyone else fall asleep. For they do not measure what we truly value in our lives -- faith...compassion...courage.

They do not measure the desire of Oregonians to pursue our talents and hopes to their fullest potential.

Numbers do not reveal how hard the Dominguez family worked to create their food manufacturing company in Hood River. This family followed the crops to Oregon in 1957 with 14 children, an old station wagon, and \$20 in their pockets. After years of scrimping and saving, they opened a tortilla factory.

And with the help of a Community Development Block Grant, Dominguez Family Enterprises now employs 35, and is among the top three tortilla producing companies in the Northwest. And just last week, the State Economic Development Department approved a new loan, for further expansion and more jobs.

Statistics ignore the resolve and tenacity of Judy Wallace of Madras. Judy was a teenage mother with little hope of finishing school. But she enrolled in a teen parent program supported with Student Retention Initiative funds. Judy not only graduated with her classmates, she is now working, living on her own, caring for her child, and attending college.

Statistics cannot describe the courage of Earl Johnson, a former Portland police officer, shot and blinded in the line of duty. He now works for the Employment Division in a job made possible by legislation requiring state agencies to set goals for hiring the disabled.

What defines us and makes us proud are acts of love, creativity, and commitment by people empowered to do and be their best. To grow...and participate...and contribute to our shared life.

In the name of the people, you have directed our state government to reach out with a helping hand -- and the state of the state is better for it.

And so I am proud to say to the returning members of the Legislative Assembly: You proved that the inhabitants of this building can work together in a spirit of compromise and consensus. By doing so, you helped build public trust in government.

To the new members, I congratulate you on the success of your hard-fought campaigns. For your efforts, the people have rewarded you with the proudest title a free society has to offer, that of citizen representative.

And now, through voice and vote, through public struggle and passionate debate, you will determine in large measure how your fellow Oregonians will live their lives into the next century.

For it is our privilege and our challenge to serve America in Oregon at a time of vast economic and social change.

THIS IS THE CHANGE: The world's most advanced microcomputer board, and a Douglas Fir board, cut to Japanese specifications. One places Oregon at the forefront of the information explosion; the other adds value to a raw material for export to world markets.

Both were produced by skilled, educated men and women capable of creating the ideas that create economic independence.

These products remind us that the essential issue facing you is NOT the fate of this Governor's budget, nor is it that of a spending limitation we placed upon ourselves a decade ago. The essential issue is whether in the face of change, Oregon can deliver the promise of opportunity and economic independence to ALL of our citizens.

I believe we cannot face the change, without facing up to past neglect.

Years of recession -- of investment postponed and maintenance delayed -- separate us from 1979, a time when growth seemed inevitable.

These are different times, with different needs:

Basic institutions -- that we inherited, and that are placed in our trust -- are breaking down.

And now it falls upon us to fix them, or run the risk of losing our identity and our vision of Oregon as a place where things work.

If anyone doubts it, let them visit Dammasch State Hospital. And they will find roofs that leak, floors that are falling apart, outside walks that are crumbling, and a hot water system that needs replacement. They will find inadequate sprinkler systems and dietary facilities that do not meet our own Health Division standards.

If anyone doubts that our system of financing public education is unfair, let them visit Redmond, a community that has chosen to tax itself above the state average, but still finds its children in overcrowded classrooms, using outdated textbooks, with no winter and spring sports in junior and senior high, and no school buses in a district that measures 500 square miles.

If anyone doubts that our prisons have reached the bursting point, let them visit the night shift at the Oregon State Correctional Institution, where 12 guards are expected to supervise over 1,000 inmates in a facility designed to hold 476. Let them visit the Release Center in Turner, where inmates with seven to eighteen months left to serve, spin through a revolving door of six days locked up and eight days on the streets.

If anyone doubts that conditions in our state parks are unacceptable, let them visit the last campgrounds built on the coast 18 years ago at Nehalem Bay and South Beach near Newport -- IF they can get a reservation.

And if anyone doubts that our fisheries are impaired, let them visit the Oak Springs Hatchery on the Deschutes River, the major producer of trout for Eastern Oregon. Or the Cedar Creek Hatchery on the coast, which produces salmon and steelhead. Fish rearing ponds are falling apart and new plumbing is needed. Most of our state hatcheries are well over 50 years old, and we have deferred maintenance on them for over a decade.

My friends, perhaps it is time for Oregon's leaders -- for you and me -- to ask the question, who are we?

If we proudly tell the citizens of the world to come to Oregon -- "Come see and enjoy our land" -- only to have 200,000 annual visitors find one tiny restroom at Smith Rock State Park -- then who are we?

If we worry about our homeless in the winter, while ignoring our responsibilities to the mentally ill -- then who are we?

If we know of drug addicted and abused children among us and do nothing to help -- then who are we?

Who are we? We are people who underestimate the citizens we represent and the price our descendants will have to pay.

It is time to remember what we have always known: Oregon can be no stronger than its ability to provide justice that protects us, education that sustains us, and work that rewards us.

That is the commitment and spirit required in Oregon today.

Now -- when the economy is on the rebound and help wanted signs are back...

Now -- when we are able to pay some past due bills without a tax increase...

NOW is the time to act -- boldly and forcefully -- and reclaim our vision of an independent and prosperous Oregon.

Imagine an Oregon where we debate educational excellence, NOT school finance.

Imagine an Oregon where criminals know that breaking the law means swift and certain punishment.

Imagine an Oregon that makes room at the table for ALL of its citizens in a feast of opportunity, self-respect, and racial harmony -- and that means NO room at the table for skinheads, crips, bloods, KKK or any other thugs who seek to divide and destroy.

I do not profess to have all the answers. Whenever I think that I do, I remember these words on a sign outside a Benton County auditorium: "Goldschmidt Wednesday...Flea Market Saturday."

But this much I do know: Our program is the people of Oregon. Our purpose is to enable each to be better and do better than they might elsewhere:

- To get crime off the streets and criminals out of the community, I propose a prison construction program that will add almost 1,100 secure beds...
- To bring us another step closer to fairness in public education, and to get schools off the ballot, I propose a finance package that includes referral to the voters of a constitutional amendment that would provide updated tax bases for all school districts...
- I propose steps that mean the beginning of the end of neglect and deterioration at our state institutions that care for our mentally ill...
- And to prevent poisoning of our land and groundwater, and to produce enough fish for gillnetters, Indians and sports fishermen alike, I propose to re-enforce Oregon's tradition of aggressively managing and preserving our natural resources.

This budget squeezes every tax dollar. To fund the things that need to be done -- and to leverage more resources -- we started by cutting \$60 million out of existing programs and by eliminating 1,600 positions. And let me repeat: this budget calls for NO TAX INCREASE.

My budget recommendations are not chiseled in stone; I know from experience that you will improve upon them. But in your deliberations, in conference room and committee chambers, all of us need to ask the same question: by our actions, do we help Oregonians grow, and participate, and contribute?

The people taught us well what is on their minds -- you heard it last fall on their doorsteps: they worry about crime in their neighborhoods and drugs in their schools; they want quality, affordable education for their children; they care deeply about the future of all our children.

They see too many young people drifting through their days, unable to learn, their potential lost forever to the larger community in which we all live.

We cannot afford to lose them. Addicted and abused children cannot learn; and when they grow up they cannot work and contribute to society.

For the sake of economic survival -- for the sake of our claim to Judeo-Christian values -- we must keep this promise to ourselves: no more lost children...no more wasted lives.

Other states, wealthier than ours, have tried to buy their way out of the problem. They have failed.

Government cannot buy commitment...

It cannot buy sacrifice...

Government cannot BE family.

We can and we must choose a different trail in Oregon, a trail that leads from the community to the capital instead of the other way around. In many respects we are still feeling our way...

But this is the way I see it: If the Children's Agenda is seen as a state government program, it will fail.

If it is seen as a way of helping communities to help families, I believe we can raise the chances that every child will arrive at school willing and able to learn, with reason to look forward to a better future.

It is ours to know that the trail is blazed for us by heroes in our midst -- would that we look, listen and learn:

In the last 10 years, Bill and Louise Calder of West Linn have been foster parents for 200 children. They now have three drug addicted children living with them -- the oldest is two years old -- babies who inherited their mothers' drug addiction in the womb. Caring for them is hard, demanding work. The symptoms of infant drug addiction are tremors, fever, restlessness, inconsolable crying -- without proper care they are at risk for physical and personality problems throughout their lives.

The Calders are empowered by the state through monthly, medical foster care payments, and special training from the Oregon Health Sciences University.

But more importantly they are empowered by their community: a woman and her daughter offer special one-on-one care for the babies. The local Lions Club raises money for the children, and club members have purchased car seats, strollers, and beds. And the Calder's housekeeper gives special discount rates.

THAT is the Children's Agenda...

And so are:

Senator Joan Dukes, and her late husband, Eric, who asked for and adopted a special needs child through the Children's Services Division...

And Representative John Schoon, who helped raise \$18,000 for the Children's Trust Fund.

It is from numberless acts such as these that a Children's Agenda will be built -- not by state government alone, but by men and women in the community, reaching out and taking responsibility for a child.

And now the time has come for Oregon's leaders to face up to our responsibility -- to the child and to every Oregonian.

Oliver Wendell Holmes once said: "As life is action and passion, it is required of men and women that they should share the passion and action of their time, at peril of being judged not to have lived."

Let it be said of the men and women of the 65th Legislative Assembly, that they not only lived, but left behind more hope than they found...more opportunity than they inherited...for a people ready to reach for their dreams.



Neil Goldschmidt

GOVERNOR NEIL GOLDSCHMIDT'S
1990 STATE OF THE STATE ADDRESSES

<u>SUBJECT</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>PAGE #</u>
CHILDREN	BEND	JANUARY 9	1
CRIME	CENTRAL POINT	JANUARY 10	10
POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION	EUGENE	JANUARY 11	18
ENV./GROWTH MANAGEMENT	HILLSBORO	JANUARY 12	24

NOTE: THE COMPLETE ADDRESS FROM THE JANUARY 9 SPEECH
IN BEND IS ENCLOSED. THE SUBSEQUENT SPEECHES HAVE
BEEN EDITED TO REMOVE OVERLAPPING PASSAGES.

State of the State
Bend, Oregon
CHILDREN

January 9, 1990

There's an old saying in politics -- that nothing is so admirable as a short memory.

Be that as it may, I want first to share with you my memories about the bookends of the 1980s in Oregon: recession and renewal. But I will be brief; Oregonians are not the kind to look back over their shoulders. This state is moving forward again.

With that in mind, I would like to spend most of my time with you today looking ahead -- beyond the Oregon Comeback to the Oregon Promise of what we can be as a state and as a people.

This week marks my fourth state of the state report to the people of Oregon...

And I can say to you that as we enter 1990, Oregon is back -- more prosperous and more secure than we were just three short years ago.

NOW IS THE TIME TO TRANSLATE THE RENEWAL OF OUR ECONOMY INTO THE ACHIEVEMENT OF OUR VISION; NOW IS THE TIME, BY DECISION AND BY DEED, TO TAKE A STAND FOR OUR FUTURE.

The fact that we can even talk about lifting our sights beyond the horizon and looking ahead is nothing short of astonishing.

I believe we cannot understand what the next decade will be, without first taking a look back at how we got here.

Remember with me for a moment...

Oregonians in the eighties suffered through the worst recession since 1932. It was real; and it was terrifying.

A newspaper headline said it best: "Citizen Suffering: Oregon Lawmakers Shaken by Stories of Desperate Families Left Without Help."

We went into the tank first and we came out last. By mid-decade, we were still out of step and falling behind.

Those were the lost years -- lost jobs and lost homes; lost opportunity and lost investment; lost time.

The steel, bricks and mortar that hold an economy and a state together were breaking and needed fixing; college libraries and fish hatcheries; ports and highways; parks and prisons -- the investments of generations.

None of us talked much about growth management -- survival management was enough for most communities.

For the first time in most people's memories, it felt as if things were out of control in Oregon.

Meanwhile, our leaders looked for guidance and inspiration to Calvin Coolidge, who once said: "When a great many people are unable to find work -- unemployment results."

I believe that Oregon stands for something in this country, and getting poorer is not it.

We were in the fourth quarter; we were losing; and our backs were to the goal line. It was time for a comeback.

We knew we had to do a few things right -- tough things, but not impossible.

First: No one -- and no region of the state -- can be left behind. That means no more business as usual; no more trickle-down government. Solutions have to be linked to the community; in a partnership of hope, of optimism, of belief that the struggle is worth it.

And people responded to the call:

People like Mike Hollern, Transportation Commission

Bob Chandler, Progress Board

Commissioner Tom Throop, LCDC

Caryn Throop, Natural Heritage Advisory Council

Dennis Maloney, Youth Services Commission

Virginia Riggs, Arts Commission

Harry Lonsdale, Science Council

Linda Borine, Fish and Wildlife Commission

The second ingredient of the Comeback: Invest limited state revenue where it will do the most good -- creating more opportunity for more Oregonians. Invest small amounts that leverage more; but above all, stop pandering to the desire to have services without paying for them.

Third: No state or region of a state ever grew strong by exporting its raw resources. Give Oregon working men and women a chance to use their skills and talent -- take the riches of the farm and of the forest and convert them into finished goods -- goods that are in high demand across the country and around the world.

In this effort to come back, we have discovered ourselves and what we can accomplish together.

Unemployment was 8.5% when we started, now it is 5.4% -- the lowest in 20 years; and real personal income is over 8% higher today than in 1986.

The personal income tax rate has dropped below 10% for the first time in 20 years; and for the first time in 10 years the corporate rate has dropped -- by nearly a percentage point.

Starting this month, unemployment taxes will drop by the largest amount ever: \$31 million in savings for nearly all of Oregon's businesses.

After three years of non-stop energy and effort, Oregon is no longer adrift; Oregon is standing up for what it believes...

And the things we stand for are getting done:

We took a stand that work is better than welfare -- and we made the minimum wage a living wage...

We took a stand that a healthy economy needs a clean environment -- we said NO to the Exxon Valdez poisoning the Columbia River; and we said YES to a Groundwater Protection Act...

We took a stand that Oregon logs belong in Oregon mills for Oregon workers -- we said it's time to stop exports of logs from state lands...

And we took a stand that when it comes to crime, talk is cheap -- we are giving law enforcement the tools it needs to catch criminals; we are building prisons to punish them.

What does it all add up to?

Opportunity...

Opportunity for steady, productive employment and an independent life;

Opportunity to own a home and retire in security;

Opportunity for a second paycheck -- the one we cash at our rivers, forests, and beaches for recreation and spiritual renewal.

THESE are the hopes and dreams of Oregonians: the single mothers who struggle to stay off welfare. The men and women who long for education for their children. Who go to night school, find child care, overcome handicaps.

Opportunity means that their sons and daughters, fresh out of high school and college, are finding good jobs at good pay right here in Oregon. A few years ago they would have had to leave the state. I know this -- because the parents of the ones who left told me so; and every day for three years I have worked hard to make sure that it never happens again.

I am proud of and impressed with all of you. But, my friends, our comeback is not enough to put us over the top. Not in the long-run.

It is said that giving a speech is really the fine art of making deep sounds from the stomach sound like important messages from the brain.

And my important message to you is this:

The world is changing; a new world is taking shape around us; and Oregon must stand for being the best, or we will be left behind.

In this new world, the difference between those who prosper and those who struggle is not military might; it is the ability to reason; to apply compassion and careful thought to our own well-being.

We have always expected more from life in Oregon; and now we must expect more from ourselves.

We Oregonians have many different points of view; but I believe we share a vision of the best that Oregon can be:

a place where people come first -- and no one is left behind

a place where learning is a matter of highest priority

a place of security; security that comes from life-long, guaranteed access to education and job training

a place where land, air and water enrich our spirit and sustain our lives

The changes rippling through the world could put Oregon over the top -- IF we prepare ourselves and our children to be the best.

In private talks and public, this is a conversation I have had with Oregonians for three years now. And I intend to continue it for as long as I serve you.

I have traveled the state many times, listening to parents and grandparents and teachers. And I listen to children in their classrooms. The rooms haven't changed much since I attended Edison Grade School in Eugene -- I see the same finger paintings on the walls, and the same small desks -- but now on many of them sits a computer.

What has truly changed are the students sitting in those little chairs. What has changed is the growing number of children who enter the schoolhouse door unable to learn, unable to think, unable to succeed.

We have always known that in a recession, lives are up-rooted and despair becomes a habit. Economic recession IS an enemy of learning. But teachers will tell you of other enemies:

Mental and physical abuse is an enemy of learning;

Drug and alcohol abuse is an enemy of learning;

Parental indifference and neglect are enemies of learning.

I come before you today to thank the teachers of this state for teaching me; and I ask all of you to listen to them.

Teachers are watchmen on the walls of society. And they will tell you that these enemies are at the wall and they threaten our very survival.

The hardest struggle against the enemies of learning is so painful, and so personal, that it will not be found on the front pages.

This quiet struggle is debated in the community; in our churches and synagogues.

It is a struggle between proud values and brutal facts; it is a struggle that will test our ability to create alternatives that speak to our best instincts and proudest traditions.

This quiet struggle lies in the choices we are faced with:

Accept the consequences of neglect and abuse...DO NOTHING...or replace a disintegrating family with state guardianship.

Face a legacy of drug damaged, permanently afflicted babies...DO NOTHING...or make criminals of pregnant mothers who test positive for drugs...

~~Lose more and more of our children to the streets; to teen pregnancy; to dropping out...DO NOTHING...or equip schools to compensate for parentless children, by teaching sex refusal skills and reasons to avoid drugs -- in other words by teaching them the self-esteem we wished they had learned at home.~~

We can keep tip-toeing through this political and social minefield; or we can do the basic, common sense things first and avoid draconian solutions later.

We know what we must do:

Common sense tells us to stop child abuse before the victim grows to become the abuser...

Common sense tell us to stop drug addiction with prevention and treatment...

Common sense tells us that if self-esteem and the skills that breed independence are important at age 18, then we must begin to build those skills from infancy...

Common sense tells us that if we DO NOT deal with child abuse, drugs, and self-esteem Oregon will go on building prison cells forever.

And today more of our citizens in this nation and this state are imprisoned than at any other time in our history.

There will always be more pain than money -- unless we stand up for our children.

We took a stand this last legislative session when we declared a state policy that says, "Children are our future; healthy children and families are of fundamental importance to the vitality of Oregon; families should be supported and strengthened."

We took a stand with tougher child abuse laws and a requirement that all schools educate children to the dangers of drugs and alcohol.

We took a stand for the work ethic with the Oregon Youth Conservation Corps.

We have made a beginning with the Children's Agenda: in Lakeview, with the Friday's Club -- an alcohol and drug free place for kids to have fun.

We have made a begining in Corvallis, where the schools themselves provide after-school supervision; and we have made a beginning in Bend with the Century Club -- 100 businesses taking on 100 youth for 100 hours of mentorship.

Programs like the Century Club don't just happen -- someone has to step forward and take responsibility for our children. People like:

John Larkin

Scott Mutchie

Dr. H.M. Kemple

Connie Worrell

Yes, we have made a beginning with the Children's Agenda...

WE MUST AND WE WILL DO MORE.

We will move to resolve the quiet struggle I spoke of earlier; I believe we can end the debate over those choices none of us should have to make.

I stand before you today to commit our state to the most significant -- the most effective -- anti-drug, anti-crime, pro-education strategy I know of.

Today, I propose that we take a stand for the children of the shadows -- the ones ill-provided and ill-equipped to learn and prosper.

There are approximately 11,000 three to five-year-old children who are NOT getting Head Start in Oregon and who need it. They need it because it builds self-esteem; they need it because it helps them think, reason, and speak clearly; they need the health care and mental health services it provides.

But more than all that, they need their parents to be advocates for education -- and that is what Head Start does best; it involves the parent.

By getting these children ready for school, we free our teachers to do the job they were trained to do -- and do very well -- prepare children for life.

I will ask the 1991 Legislature to refer a measure to the voters calling for a constitutional amendment that would dedicate 30% of our lottery dollars to ensure Head Start for every eligible child in this state.

We are going to put our money where our values are.

We will reduce the number of drug abusers...

We will reduce the number of drop-outs...

We will stop the endless need for more prisons...

We will be the first state in the nation to do it.

Head Start IS a drug prevention program.

And the DARE Project and Preparing for the Drug Free Years are helping thousands of Oregon children to turn away from drugs.

But no prevention program or strategy is perfect.

We must continue to teach refusal skills; we will provide parents with anti-drug training.

But some will fall through the cracks.

We know that drug abuse breeds drug abuse; we know that drugs and the pressure to use them can come from parents and relatives -- and that's the kind of pressure that "just say no" just can't cope with.

Winston Churchill said, "We cannot escape our dangers by recoiling from them. We dare not pretend such dangers do not exist."

We must not and will not turn our backs on primary, middle school and high school youth who need help getting off drugs and alcohol...

For all those who want to be cured; for all those who have to wait: WE ARE GOING TO TAKE A STAND -- AND NO CHILD OF OREGON IS GOING TO HAVE TO STAND IN LINE TO GET HELP.

I intend to propose that the next Oregon Legislature provide drug and alcohol rehabilitation resources to every addicted pregnant mother, and to every child up to age 18, who cannot afford treatment. This will cost up to an additional \$5 million per year.

In addition, it is critical that we look at what we can do to make sure babies are not born drug addicted in this state. They are coming to be known as "million dollar babies" -- the public cost of caring for them remains with us for a lifetime. There has got to be a better way.

Former Supreme Court Justice Betty Roberts has agreed to lead a commission that will look not only at treatment needs, but at ways to ensure that addictive pregnant mothers avail themselves of that treatment.

These proposals, taken together, will be the biggest economic development decision Oregon is ever going to make.

Illiterate workers cannot compete...

Drug-addicted workers cannot compete...

And in the end Oregon cannot compete with a workforce unqualified to work.

Our decision will ultimately mean the transfer of thousands of Oregonians from the tax-supported rolls to the taxpayer rolls; from having cells built for them, to building a future for themselves.

There are children today who can't vote, who have no say in this decision at all, but who could inherit a legacy from you that would look to our nation like the Marshall Plan looked to Europe after World War II.

That legacy is the belief that all children can learn; that all children can achieve. Not just in academics but in values.

To act with decency and honor, to respect themselves and their fellow citizens, to love their country, to serve the community...

This is what I believe we stand for as a people.

This is what can distinguish us in the 1990s and beyond.

As for today, you have heard nothing from me about one children's issue that can stop us dead in our tracks: school finance.

A Legislature that did more than it is given credit for on school finance would, to a person, say that it was not enough.

Your Legislature gave an interim committee the authority to come to you, and seek a solution to a system that is unfair to taxpayers and unfair to kids.

The solution we all seek lies at the heart of the success of Oregon's agenda for its children.

We have great teachers; we need to send a message to them, and to those who would choose to follow in their footsteps: You are needed, you are essential to our progress.

They will only believe it if we spend our time, affection and resources on our schools.

As for me, I will do everything in my power to help the Legislature place before you in the May election, measures that will help us break the logjam and reach a solution.

I have been meeting with teachers and members of the public all around Oregon on this issue. They are telling me what we should do and what we can do to make this system fair and equitable.

I will continue to be an active and public participant in this process, both before and after the May primary.

For the rest of this week, I will be visiting Central Point, Eugene and Hillsboro. I will be talking about the great opportunities that lie before us in public safety, in post-secondary education, and protecting the environment and managing growth.

These are the issues -- they stand for every Oregonian reaching their full potential in stronger, safer communities. And the common thread that runs through them all is our children.

There will always be voices that say it is not good to raise expectations too high; to set goals that may not be reached in four years, or eight years, or even in a lifetime.

They believe what Charlie Brown said, that "No problem is so big or so complicated that it can't be run away from."

But we should listen to other voices; voices that speak of the power of the mind and spirit to change the world.

In their call for freedom and independence, the voices of the people of Eastern Europe remind us of what Napoleon discovered:

"There are only two important forces in the affairs of men," he said. "One is the sword, the other the spirit. The sword will always be conquered by the spirit."

As the Cold War ends, we in the United States and in Oregon have the opportunity to conquer the sword of ignorance and despair with our spirit...

It is an opportunity the federal government can help ensure by shifting resources from armaments to those things we care about in life -- arts, science, health, education, the environment, and above all, children.

When the President asks the American people, "Which do you choose?" We must tell him, "Mr. President, save the children."

If you are Jewish, tell him, "Mr. President, from my Torah I read, 'And a little child shall lead them.'"

If you are Christian, tell him, "Mr. President, from my Bible I read that Jesus took a little child, and put His arms around him, and said to His disciples, 'Whoever welcomes a child such as this for my sake welcomes me.'"

No matter what religion or belief you hold, tell him, "Save the children."

Long ago it was written that to everything there is a season, and a time to every purpose under heaven.

Our purpose is clear; our time is now -- if we take a stand.

For if the President or anyone else is to believe us, above all they will believe our deeds more than our words; in the end, these are not someone else's children we speak of -- they are ours.

With trust in each other; with faith in our vision, we can truly say, this is what we are doing to save our children; this is what we are doing to save ourselves. And what we do here in Oregon will light the way for a nation.

###

State of the State
Central Point, Oregon
CRIME

January 10, 1990

...Our comeback is not enough to put us over the top. Not in the long-run.

Economic recession is one enemy of society; crime and drugs are another.

Crime eats away at our resources; it erodes our sense of security; it destroys our very faith in justice and our system of laws.

We risk all that we have gained if we fail to understand that the price of temporizing with criminals is far greater than the price of ensuring swift and certain punishment.

And we risk it all if we fail to understand that the price of saving a child is far less than the price of stacking prison cell upon prison cell.

This issue is of fundamental importance to the state of the state; and I want to talk to you in some detail about how we are addressing it.

Let me start with what we know about crime in Oregon.

- More Oregon children use more drugs than their peers in other states
- The number of juveniles arrested for serious crimes, including hard drugs, is going up
- Number of adults arrested for drug crimes doubled between '84 and '89.
- Approximately 70% of all those arrested test positive for some type of drug; drug usage drives the crime rates: larceny, burglary, robbery, assault, homicide, sex offenses -- you name it.
- Finally, two-thirds of adult felons were abused as children.

What do we learn from these facts?

One: drugs and child abuse and crime feed off of one another -- PREVENTION IS ESSENTIAL

Two: juvenile justice system must be credible

Three: law enforcement must have the right tools to get the job done.

Four: the corrections system must provide power to punish; plus drug treatment programs; transition programs to help inmates re-join society; structured supervision to keep parolees and those on probation from going through a revolving door of committing crime and doing time.

What did we find in 1987?

For the last decade Oregon's criminal justice system was shamefully neglected by state leaders who must have believed that fighting crime was somebody else's responsibility.

- No mandatory drug and alcohol education in the schools
- Long waiting lists for children wanting drug and alcohol rehabilitation; we found that many get drugs from their own parents and relatives
- Offenses were de-criminalized...Offenders were de-institutionalized -- and we provided no help to the counties to deal with it.

This meant more dangerous mentally ill people on the streets

And more serious juvenile offenders being let loose

As the seriousness of the crimes went up, the state's interest went down.

Oregon prisons were operating at 195% of their design capacity in 1987 -- the second highest in the nation.

Dangerous criminals were released before their time was served:

What did we do about it?

Remember what we learned from the facts: prevention, juvenile justice, law enforcement, corrections are the areas that have to be addressed.

First, prevention

Tomorrow's criminals are today's abused children, they are today's drug users, they are today's dropouts.

What are we doing about tomorrow's criminals?

What I hear everywhere I go, from police and prosecutors; parole officers and counselors, is this: to reduce crime, begin with children.

- Children's Agenda
- Student Retention Initiative to lower the dropout rate

all counties received funding through SRI for drug and alcohol prevention and treatment

- Schools will now be required to develop and implement policies to combat drug and alcohol use.

Second area we addressed: make Juvenile Justice System credible:

There must be serious consequences for serious acts; there must be help to avoid repeating them.

- MacLaren

40 additional beds set aside for serious juvenile offenders

25 new beds for juveniles who committed sex offenses

drug and alcohol treatment programs; plus community resources committed for this purpose

mental health services

juvenile offenders now held accountable for restitution through Youth Conservation Corps -- teaches work ethic

we are empowering counties to deal with results of downsizing

- Finally stood up for our values and made the sale of drug paraphernalia against the law
- Sent a message to our children that any drug use is unacceptable: increased fines for possession of marijuana
- Police can now fingerprint and photograph serious juvenile offenders; records of juveniles who commit sex offenses are no longer expunged from records.

Circuit Court judges we appoint care about and understand the problems of juveniles who are in trouble with the law

Third area we addressed: Tools for Law Enforcement

This past legislative session was the most productive anti-crime session in decades.

- Forfeiture of cash and assets of drug dealers

others talked about doing it; we took a stand and got it done

State Police have taken in nearly \$1 million in cash and property.

- Automated fingerprint system has been called the biggest advance since two-way radios in police cars

\$1.5 million for this biennium

It's worth every penny. We can identify criminals we never could have identified in the past. Keizer police took a print off glassware in a meth lab; the automated system identified a person who had not been listed as a suspect -- this never would have happened under the old system.

A decomposed, beheaded murder victim washed up on the banks of the Columbia last spring. Only a tiny portion of a print was obtained -- about the size of the tip of a pen. The FBI couldn't identify the victim; other states couldn't; but one week after our new system went on-line we had a positive ID -- he was a drug dealer, and his associates are implicated in the murder.

Wiretaps are now permitted in drug cases

Police officers can now carry listening devices in drug cases

This past year we didn't allow any law enforcement resources to stand idle on the sidelines.

When gangs threatened to take over Tri-Met, we sent in the state police for six months.

And the National Guard -- in Portland to help the police fight gangs; and in the rest of the state to help with marijuana eradication.

In Southern Oregon: National Guard works with Sheriff Smith of Jackson County; Sheriff Arnado of Josephine County; Sheriff Tarno of Coos County; Sheriff Pardon of Douglas County; Sheriff Denney of Curry County.

If you think the troops in Panama are the only ones risking their lives in the war on drugs, think again. Your neighbors in the National Guard, and local law enforcement officers, put their lives on the line, too.

A National Guardsman found this booby trap in a marijuana field in Southern Oregon.

A shotgun shell goes in here; a trip wire stretches across the path...

The fourth area of concern is corrections

This Governor will have built nearly half of the prison beds that have ever been built in the history of the Oregon state corrections system

It hasn't been easy. Take it from me, if you ever want to "win friends and influence people" don't site a prison.

But it had to be done; and now 3,000 beds are scheduled to come on-line by the end of 1991...

Columbia River Correctional Institution in Multnomah County

Powder River in Baker County

Detention center in Clackamas County

EOCI addition in Umatilla County

Medium security prison in Malheur County

And I can announce to you we will obtain free-of-charge from the federal government a site at Hauser in Coos County for a minimum security facility.

And I can say to you with certainty that the difference between 1987 and 1991 will be 3,000 dangerous offenders off the streets and in a cell.

We all talk tough about crime. But tough talk needs to be backed up by a smart, truthful system.

Sentencing guidelines means truth in sentencing; truth in planning current use and future needs of the corrections system.

- Vocational training/idle time

the new facility at Hauser will be a labor camp

prison industry program

- Drug and alcohol treatment
 - to break the cycle of drugs and crime, we are moving toward drug and alcohol treatment at all correctional facilities
 - Transition programs for every inmate who is released; will help them get off the tax-supported rolls and onto the tax-payer rolls
-

What are we going to do in prevention, juvenile justice, law enforcement, corrections?

First, Prevention

Once again, we know what we must do:

Common sense tells us to stop child abuse before the victim grows to become the abuser...

Common sense tell us to stop drug addiction with prevention and treatment...

Common sense tells us that if self-esteem and the skills that breed independence are important at age 18, then we must begin to build those skills from infancy...

Common sense tells us that if we DO NOT deal with child abuse, drugs, and self-esteem we will go on building prison cells forever.

And today more of our citizens in this nation and this state are imprisoned than at any other time in our history.

There will always be more pain than money -- unless we stand up for our children.

It costs \$3,200 to pay for one child in Head Start per year; it costs over four times that amount to house one prisoner.

That is why we are going to take a stand for the children of the shadows -- the ones ill-provided and ill-equipped to learn and prosper.

I will ask the 1991 Legislature to refer a measure to the voters calling for a constitutional amendment that would dedicate 30% of our lottery dollars to ensure Head Start for every eligible child in this state.

Head Start IS a drug prevention program.

And the DARE Project and Preparing for the Drug Free Years are helping thousands of Oregon children to turn away from drugs.

But no prevention program is perfect.

We must continue to teach refusal skills; we will provide parents with anti-drug training.

But some will fall through the cracks.

We know that drug abuse breeds drug abuse; we know that drugs and the pressure to use them can come from parents and relatives -- and that's the kind of pressure that no refusal skills can deal with.

We must not and will not turn our backs on primary, middle school and high school youth who need help getting off drugs and alcohol.

~~That is why we will take a stand for all those who now want to be cured; for all those who now have to wait:~~

NO CHILD OF OREGON IS GOING TO HAVE TO STAND IN LINE TO GET HELP.

I intend to propose that the next Oregon Legislature provide drug and alcohol rehabilitation resources to every drug addicted pregnant mother, and to every child up to age 18, who cannot afford treatment. This will cost up to an additional \$5 million per year.

With these proposals, we are going to put our money where our values are.

We will reduce the number of drug abusers...

We will reduce the number of drop-outs...

We will stop the endless need for more prisons...

We will be the first state in the nation to do it.

Juvenile Justice

There is nothing more frustrating for a juvenile court judge than to identify the need for rehabilitation without the resources to back it up. We must continue pushing into the next biennium for more mental health resources; more work experience resources; more alternatives to MacLaren.

We must ensure that local communities have the resources they need to cope with deinstitutionalizing of juveniles.

There should be a compact between the juvenile justice system and the community:

1) Community protection

Stop the crime pattern by detention, house arrest, or by whatever means is appropriate

We have increased our capacity to do this

2) Offender accountability

founding principle of justice

pay back the victim; pay back the community with hard work

3) Juveniles should leave the system more capable than when they entered it -- more capable to get a job, to hold a job, to be self-sufficient and independent.

Law Enforcement Tools

- Sex offender registration statute:

This past year, we passed a statute requiring all sex offenders to register their addresses for five years after being placed on probation or released from prison. The addresses will be maintained in the statewide police computer system, and in criminal cases where a habitual sex offender may be involved, they should help us rapidly locate suspects.

Although this statute is a good start, I believe it needs to be beefed up. I intend to propose making the registration requirement a condition of parole or probation for released sex offenders, so that failure to register can lead to the offender being immediately returned to prison.

- National Guard:

Last September I asked for an evaluation of the National Guard's drug enforcement activities statewide. The assessment has just been completed -- the guard has helped make law enforcement more effective and more potent.

As a result of this evaluation, I can announce to you today that I have directed the National Guard to prepare, in cooperation with the State Police and local law enforcement, a plan for using the \$1.2 million they will receive in 1990 federal drug interdiction funds.

The plan will be presented to the March Legislative Emergency Board along with a coordinated package of other programs related to drug enforcement, treatment and prevention.

I can also tell you that agreements have been reached over the last few days with local law enforcement officials here in Southern Oregon that will result in National Guard support for drug enforcement activities in this region. These operations will be incorporated into the plan they submit in March.

Corrections

One thing we learned from the neglect of the 70s and 80s -- while our attention and budget priorities were somewhere else, this crime problem was sneaking up on us.

I am not about to let that happen again. I'm announcing today that I am re-constituting a Corrections Task Force. There are four assignments I will ask this new task force to undertake:

First, take a look back at our accomplishments and evaluate how we are doing at implementing the strategic plan. Are we on track? And where should the Corrections Department and the Legislature be focusing their efforts in 1991 and beyond.

Second, re-examine the ongoing problem of how to project the amounts of prison space we will need in the future. I have pledged not to permit anymore early releases, but in order to fulfill that pledge, we must have accurate projections. I will ask the task force to develop a projection model that uses the best outside talent available.

Whatever the projections may lead to, I want to emphasize that we reached into the lottery on a one-time-only basis to get caught up on prison space -- we are NOT going to ask for lottery funds next time

Third, look at the special needs of a small but important segment of the criminal population: women offenders. We need the task force's advice on the adequacy of our facilities and programs for getting women offenders off drugs and into a productive life.

Finally, make recommendations for dealing with a very troublesome part of our criminal population: sex offenders. I am happy to report that under our new sentencing guidelines system, far more sex offenders will be sent to prison than ever before. But we must be ready to handle them. The task force will answer questions on cost-effective types of treatment, and the possibility of lower-cost facilities than general-population prisons.

When I became your Governor, I promised that Oregon would stop being a place where criminals laughed at police and judges; a place where crooks could brag that even if they were caught and convicted, they would be back on the streets in a few days.

I am keeping that promise to you.

All the available resources of the state have been brought to bear on this crime and drug problem; we are hammering away at it every day with prevention, juvenile justice, better tools for law enforcement, and by re-building corrections. And we will continue to hammer away at it for as long as I serve you. We will never let up...

...We in Oregon must believe that all children can learn; that all children can achieve. Not just in academics but in values.

To act with decency and honor, to respect themselves and their fellow citizens, to love their country, to serve the community...

This is what I believe will end crime and drug abuse.

This is what I believe we stand for as a people.

This is what can distinguish us in the 1990s and beyond.

And with trust in each other; with faith in our vision, we can truly say, this is what we are doing to save our children; this is what we are doing to save ourselves. And what we do here in Oregon will light the way for a nation.

###

State of the State
Eugene, Oregon
POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION

January 11, 1990

...Our economy is not the only measure of life in Oregon.

The return on our investment will mean little or nothing if we do not use it to enrich the lives of our people.

And nothing enriches our lives more than knowledge and the power it brings.

My grandmothers came from Russia and Germany. They said to their children and grandchildren, "education, education, education." If you get it, the rest will take care of itself. If you get an education, you can take care of your family.

Education is that -- and it is more.

Much of what we are today in the United States is the result of a decision to invest in the education of nine million people with the G.I. bill.

It's hard for us to imagine in these days of crabbed and pinched government budgets...think about it...

Nine million human minds stretched and excited by the exchange of ideas.

Nine million minds freed from the darkness and narrowness of ignorance.

The purpose of the G.I. Bill was not to create good consumers, but to create good citizens.

Fisher Ames, a 19th century American conservative, said about democracy: "It never sinks, but damn it, your feet are always in the water."

It is education that keeps democracy afloat.

Mark Twain once wrote about a fellow who was asked what to do about the menace of submarines. "That's easy: boil the ocean." When asked how to go about boiling an ocean, the fellow replied, "Look, it's enough for me to come up with the vision; it's up to you to boil the water."

Our vision is clear: a new world is taking shape around us; and Oregon must stand for being the best educated, the best prepared, or we will be left behind.

The question is, how well-equipped are we to boil the water?

To keep pace with the technology revolution in all of our industries?

To put an end to adult illiteracy in the work place, the community, and the home?

To establish measurably the best work force in this country?

~~Let me begin with a few moments on our community colleges.~~

Community colleges are already playing vitally important roles in our lives.

The state's 16 community colleges project that more than 300,000 students will enroll in 1989 - 90. Among these colleges is Oregon's largest educational institution -- Portland Community College.

They are the community based entry point to postsecondary education for most Oregonians.

They are a key source of initial job training and career preparation.

They are the starting point for many Oregonians working towards a baccalaureate degree.

They are our best chance at erasing adult illiteracy in this state.

They are an important source of employee retraining and upgrading in the work place.

But who are they, really? They are:

16 very different college districts each formed on purpose by local voters.

They are valued and deeply cared for by the communities they serve and who, by the way, provide 70% of the dollars needed to provide all these services.

And they are:

- 1) Very reliant on the property tax, and
- 2) Deeply wounded by the recession of the early 80s, especially where equipment, such as computers, and educational infrastructure are concerned, and
- 3) Their buildings were just as neglected as those in higher ed.

It is clear from any review of community college history and opportunity that our need for community college contributions in our lives cannot be solved by our current reliance on the property tax. It is also clear that community colleges have in fact fostered, not resisted, an exciting array of opportunities for making Oregon a better place for all of us.

These critical decisions need to be made over the next several years:

First, whether in solving K-12 school finance dilemma, and in the process moving state support to 50%, do we treat community colleges exactly the same? At 50%, the decision could cost up to \$100 million. while being more clear about what the state expects in return.

Second, whether to identify community colleges for their potential contribution toward critical educational/economic opportunities, for which we would budget special dollars. For instance, preparing workers for metals or semiconductor industries.

Third, whether to enhance the community colleges' role in preparation of students seeking a four-year degree, and accordingly tie them more closely to our state system of higher education.

These major decisions are a potentially major shift -- from a history of state support based upon course enrollments and dollar/student state "contribution," to state support based upon strategic opportunities and a state "investment" in the colleges as agents for achieving those opportunities.

The first decision will be decided on a parallel track with the discussion on K-12 financing; whether community colleges receive the same financial treatment as K-12, they deserve additional support.

As to the second decision, it is my intention to commit not less than \$10 million, to build the bridge between community colleges and Oregon's economic development plans, particularly our challenge to ourselves to have the best workforce anywhere in the world.

Leadership in addressing the third decision must come from the Board of Higher Education; if enrollments are constricted to achieve quality, then community colleges must be prepared.

Many say that education is too important to be left to politicians. For the most part, I agree. But I also believe what may be more important than my politics -- my belief that the university, along with the press and public libraries -- are the most important guardians of a free society. The university is the first amendment brought to life.

If my university was not always proud of what I did, I was deeply proud of what my university was and is. Great universities are creatures of habit -- habits of free expression, habits of free inquiry, and the most important habit of all: to conquer fear with knowledge.

For when fear lives in a university, the university ceases to live.

For every invitation for a governor to involve himself in the affairs of a university, caution is provided by history, which teaches us that elected public officials can quickly destroy the best habits that generations have built.

There are great habits in Oregon's colleges and universities; great teachers, great researchers and great potential.

When I was elected, I offered no blueprint for achieving greatness in higher education; no president or faculty member I know believes such blueprints come from governors. What I offered then was a belief in higher education; what I offer today is the result of three years of hard work...

Hard work fighting to empower those in our universities who push for quality. Three years encouraging those inside and outside of our institutions of higher learning who ask hard questions about Oregon's direction and level of excellence.

Three years fighting to free higher education decision-making from legislative micro-management.

And more days than most could imagine possible, spent encouraging private citizens to join a Board of Higher Education committed to three principles:

- 1) ~~no university or college ever moved to greatness by trying to be everything to everybody.~~
- 2) no idea in our society deserves more commitment and has more value than great universities;
- 3) these things can only be accomplished with great faculty, encouraged to seek truth and teach it; and who are paid well and supported well.

There is real progress:

- 1) eliminated legislative micro-management; transferred responsibility back to board and Chancellor(including decisions on tuition)
- 2) In 1987, we took brick and mortar projects that had been in the pipeline for over ten years and funded them all in one legislative session. Outside the spending limit. And for a \$65 million investment, we leveraged additional resources to create a \$100 million investment in libraries, research laboratories and classrooms.
- 3) Started to catch up on years of neglect and deferred maintenance -- \$2.5 million
- 4) We peeled intercollegiate athletics away from the general fund where it competed with faculty salaries.
- 5) Began an endowment incentive match program -- \$1.2 million.
- 6) Began Chancellor's fighting fund for recruitment and retention of outstanding faculty -- \$2 million
- 7) Targeted Programs of Excellence(Center for Housing Innovation and a Center for Asian and Pacific Studies at U of O) -- \$2.5 million

That is a record worth building upon.

But it is not enough.

We know that the character of a university is determined by the men and women who come to teach there.

Over the last decade, Oregon's public universities have consistently ranked in the lowest 20th percentile with respect to salaries.

Ten years from now, more than half of the individuals who today lead Oregon's institutions of higher education as faculty and administrators will have retired or moved elsewhere

There are clear indications that the academic marketplace will become increasingly competitive in the 1990s.

We must take and sustain dramatic measures to begin to attract and retain Oregon's teachers of the 21st century.

What needs to be done?

I never liked video poker; I accepted it in a good faith attempt to reach out to a solution for the salary issue. It failed for all the reasons I suspected it might.

But the need is still there. And I can announce to you today I intend to work with Legislative leadership on a plan to present to the Legislative Emergency Board in March to replace a substantial amount of this revenue.

Budget planning for the state is about to begin. Every agency, every interest group in Oregon is beginning to walk the corridors of the executive branch of government. I want to announce today that I have committed \$60 million of our discretionary resources to an excellence package to address critical higher education needs.

\$50 million of this total will be targeted at salary and support needs. \$10 million will make four programs a permanent part of higher education's base budget:

deferred maintenance

increased endowment match

Chancellor's fighting fund

targeted programs -- \$3.5 million

This \$60 million commitment is above and beyond whatever regular salary increase package is provided for in our budget.

This is a beginning of a long road. I came to this office a graduate of an Oregon university.

For so long as I hold it, I intend to make sure that every teacher, researcher, support staff, alum, and citizen can travel America telling their colleagues, professional peers, friends and relatives that Oregon higher education knows what it takes to achieve greatness.

And its government and its citizens, with its faculty, intend to see it is achieved.

The Chancellor and the state board with this commitment can continue to work with university leadership and faculty on details of this package.

There remains one education issue that can stop us dead in our tracks: K-12 school finance.

The solution we all seek lies at the heart of the success of Oregon's agenda for its children.

Great university system won't be maintained by populace who didn't graduate from high school. Who feel frustration and anger from being on the outside looking in.

We don't want to end up with a group of people on the outside looking in.

As in our colleges, we have great teachers in our public schools; we need to send a message to them, and to those who would choose to follow in their footsteps: You are needed, you are essential to our progress.

They will only believe it if we spend our time, affection and resources on our schools.

As for me, I will do everthing in my power to help the Legislature place before you in the May election, measures that will help us break the logjam and reach a solution.

We Oregonians have many different points of view; but I believe we share a vision of the best that Oregon can be:

a place where people come first -- and no one is left behind

a place where learning is a matter of highest priority

a place of security; security that comes from life-long, guaranteed access to education and job training

a place where land, air and water enrich our spirit and sustain our lives

Our state was born of such a vision; a vision of Thomas Jefferson, the father of the University of Virginia and that most educated of all America's leaders. "If a nation expects to be ignorant and free, in a state of civilization," he wrote, "it expects what never was and never will be."

The vision of Oregon that brought Lewis and Clark across a continent emanated from Jefferson's education and his faith in the future.

When Jefferson looked at that map, he didn't see obstacles -- he saw opportunity; he saw Oregon.

The changes rippling through the world could put Oregon over the top -- IF we prepare ourselves and our children to be the best.

No country and no state can ever go backward toward greatness. Oregon can only go forward -- and no one can be left behind.

###

State of the State
Hillsboro, Oregon
ENVIRONMENT/GROWTH MANAGEMENT

January 12, 1990

...When I spoke in Bend on Tuesday, I proposed to expand the Head Start program to help thousands more children succeed in school and in life.

When I spoke in Central Point, I said we are spending what we must on police and prison cells. But more importantly, we are investing in prevention by fighting child abuse and drug abuse.

And when I spoke in Eugene, I said that our future depends on knowledge and the power of ideas; and that Oregon's colleges and universities must be supported at the level they deserve, or we are tossing opportunity out the window.

If we succeed with nurturing our children, and 90% graduate from high school instead of 73% -- won't the world beat a path to our door?

If we succeed in fighting crime and drugs and build the safest communities in a crime-ridden nation -- won't the world beat a path to our door?

If we create an economy of the mind from the best teachers and researchers in our colleges and universities -- then won't the world want to pack up and move to Oregon?

If we do these things, and I think we will, and if the world wants to move here -- then we have got to be ready.

But I stand before you today, to say that all our best intentions, all our striving for opportunity and potential will amount to nothing if we lose our soul in the process. If we squander and sacrifice that which enriches us and sustains our spirit -- our environment.

Today I want to talk to you about the State of our Environment; the precious land, air, and water of Oregon.

First, let us ask ourselves this question: Are we good enough to have this land in our possession? Have we got enough intelligence, imagination and cooperation among us to show the world that humankind CAN co-exist with the environment?

Our history tells us that in Oregon, the answer is yes...

The nation's first air pollution control law in 1951.

The nation's first bottle bill in 1971.

The nation's first comprehensive statewide land use planning law in 1973.

But 1973 was 17 long years ago.

I believe that for too long we lived off our reputation.

What did we find in 1987 when we came into office? The same office that had been held by environmental giants in our time: Tom McCall and Bob Straub...

First: our land

We found a state government that had abdicated to the federal government decisions as to how much water, how much recreation, how much fish and wildlife, how much timber we needed from the national forests in Oregon;

We found parks with more campers than campgrounds; we found a parks system in disrepair and decay;

No plan to reduce hazardous waste and protect against spills.

Second: our water

We found vital watersheds decimated by overgrazing, road-building, logging and other human activities;

Dilapidated state fish hatcheries, with cracked ponds, leaking pipes, and ancient pumping equipment.

We found increasing pollution of our groundwater, and no strategy to protect it.

Third: our air

We found seed growers and the public at odds over field burning, with no leadership to resolve the problem

And air pollution still clinging to our political will in Southern Oregon.

There is a Native American saying: "We have not inherited the earth from our ancestors we are borrowing it from our children."

In 1987 it was time for us in Oregon to stop living off our inheritance; it was time to once again begin to build an environmental legacy for our children.

We took a stand for the land.

We have mounted an unprecedented effort to develop state alternatives responsive to the broad interests of all Oregonians on each of our 13 national forests.

We rewrote our state forest practices act to make it more balanced, assuring greater consideration of fish, wildlife, wetlands, and special areas; putting the responsibility for it with one carefully balanced board.

Citizens at the ballot box voted overwhelmingly to stop log exports from public lands.

We went to the 1989 Legislature and created a new independent State Parks and Recreation Commission overseeing a new department. With a 20% increase in the Parks budget for this biennium. I have asked them to look for a new funding source to revitalize our parks and natural areas and sustain them for the future.

We passed the nation's first toxic use reduction act

We took a stand for our water

Healthy watersheds are absolutely critical for farming, timber, recreation, wildlife. And as far back as anybody can remember ranchers and farmers have been fighting downstream water users over this issue. We listened to all of their needs and their complaints, and we started the Governor's Watershed Enhancement Program for the huge sum of \$500,000.

The idea was to bring the warring parties together and encourage better riparian zone practices; to make sure cattle aren't stomping through the water, while ensuring plenty of water for the ranchers. It's working to the mutual interest of all water users. It's a model program for the United States. But most of all, former enemies are working together in their mutual interests.

It worked so well that we asked for \$1,000,000 in 1989, money that is leveraging more money for more investments all over the state.

We started a fish restoration and enhancement program for Oregon, a program that will allow citizens to set their own agenda for restoring our great fisheries. It is funded by increased fees paid by fishermen and by lottery dollars. \$5 million will be invested over the next two years and we expect to continue it for 6 years with an eventual investment of not less than \$15 million.

And we passed a new Groundwater Protection Act

We took a stand for our rivers when we said it was wrong to dam the Klamath at Salt Caves.

We took a stand for our air, and that's why I support the field burning initiative sponsored by Oregonians Against Field Burning, a moderate proposal aimed at phasing down--not eliminating totally, but phasing down, open field burning within 6 years. And that's why I applaud the efforts of the City of Medford and the City of Central Point with funding from the DEQ to adopt their own local ordinances to control wood stove smoke on days when air conditions won't allow it without real health risks.

But restoring our rivers and fish runs and watersheds is not enough. We face new and even more difficult challenges, challenges I believe we are ready to face.

1990s will be a time of enormous growth in Oregon; the real estate developers look at Los Angeles; they look at Seattle; they look at sprawl and congestion and poisoned air and water and they say, Oregon is the promised land.

Art Buchwald says that when the economy gets better, everything else gets worse.

Can Oregon prove him wrong?

We have the reputation; we have the ethic; we have the tools; but they aren't enough for the 1990s. We must also have the wisdom. The wisdom to first question, to doubt -- and then to take an unyielding stand when our environment faces intolerable or irreparable harm. There can be no compromise with an eternity of pain.

Hanford

How much confidence should we have in the federal government which left us the world's biggest nuclear waste pile at Hanford, Washington? Working hand in hand with the state of Washington, we have pressed Congress to provide money and direction for cleaning up Hanford. We have pressed the U.S. Department of Energy to get on with the job. We are now enlisting other states with nuclear weapons plants to increase our power to pressure the federal government to clean up its act.

Exxon Valdez

We said NO to the Exxon Valdez poisoning the Columbia River

Oil drilling moratorium

The federal government owns the seabed off our shores, and their attitude is that they can do with it whatever they like, whatever the danger to our beaches and rich ocean fisheries, and the vast web of life they sustain.

How can anyone even consider leasing for oil and gas development when the environmental studies have not been done to determine whether it can be done safely?

We need the wisdom in Oregon to know and believe that a healthy environment and a healthy economy are one and the same; that we cannot have one without the other.

GWEB proved farmers and ranchers and downstream water users and fisherman can be partners.

This month I am asking the Emergency Board for \$1 million to fund a new Center for Applied Agricultural Research. This Center will finance (1) research on safe replacement of herbicides and pesticides that are no longer permitted; (2) application research allowing for reduced use of herbicides and pesticides; and (3) research on non-use of chemicals. Agriculturalists, scientists and environmentalists will share in its development and management. We need great agriculture. Farmers need environmentally-sound tools in their competitive economic marketplace. This partnership is once again uniquely Oregon.

It is this kind of research and study that we need to tackle questions like how much dioxin contamination really exists in the Columbia River and how it affects fish and wildlife. We have to have more information and understanding of the water quality problems we face in the Columbia if we are going to develop plans to solve them.

I am committed to this effort. That is why I am asking the Emergency Board for \$370,000 to get the bi-state research effort on the Columbia underway. More money will be contributed by the State of Washington, local port districts and the pulp and paper industry. I hope we will be able to get additional support from local governments along the river.

We also need the wisdom in Oregon to say come and visit; come and live among us too, and if you do, you can depend upon our rules to protect the quality of life which drew you to us in the first place.

Oregon is a place where people want to live and developers want to develop. It is a fact of life.

For effective urban containment...

For protection of farm and forest lands...

We need the best tools in the country to manage growth; we must re-energize our land use planning system.

The program has been through a tough infancy and it has been tested. We are fortunate that frank criticisms are being made. People are telling us what works and what does not. Because we are listening, the program will be better.

Especially, we must make transportation planning and land use planning work together.

We will not get the job done with planning alone. We must be willing to spend money on investments in roads, transit, sewers, water systems, and parks necessary for orderly growth.

We must invest in ourselves.

We did it when we took a stand for light rail fifteen years ago.

We did it when each of the last two Legislature's raised the gas tax. Without the additional funding, we would be watching the erosion of our previous investments in roads and highways. We would not even be keeping up maintenance, much less investing to handle new growth.

We will do it if we provide financial support for our parks plan.

We will do it in May if the voters amend the Constitution to allow limited use of vehicle registration fees for transportation uses. This vote does not levy any fee. Those fees will only happen if and when counties vote to put them in place to address local needs.

I believe westside light rail makes sense -- MAX all the way to Hillsboro. I am pledged to supporting a state contribution up to \$62 million for half of the local share of the project.

It's a good investment in keeping our communities livable. I hope voters will see it in the same way in May.

Look around. See that the quality of life we have is a consequence of the choices we make.

One of the smartest choices for the environment we can make today is to conserve energy. We have learned from hard experience that almost no form of generating or using energy is friendly to the environment. Except for energy conservation--or more accurately, energy efficiency.

It will take something that we haven't seen enough of in America in the 1980s: a willingness to make sacrifices for the sake of future generations.

I am struck by the fact that two great sweeps of history converge as we meet here in Washington County: the celebration of the birthday of Martin Luther King and a revolution in Eastern Europe.

The thread that runs through both events are Jefferson's principles of a free people, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their

Creator with certain unalienable rights, that among these are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.

Our stand for the environment does not absolve us from caring for the unalienable rights of the human face in the landscape.

Will we stand for ourselves?

It is one thing to put a souvenir chunk of the Berlin Wall on your mantelpiece; it is quite another thing to help the homeless; to help stop the slaughter of Blacks on the streets of Portland; to help Native Americans fight the disease of alcoholism; to save our children from drugs and illiteracy.

It is very clear that the question facing our society in 1990 is this: are we capable of fulfilling the vision of our Constitution, through education and justice -- are we capable of doing that while preserving the land, water, and air God gave us? If we do not do both, if we do not keep this holy covenant, then this great experiment in democracy will have failed.

Martin Luther King said, "I have the audacity to believe that peoples everywhere can have three meals a day for their bodies, education and culture for their minds, and dignity, equality, and freedom for their spirits. I believe that what self-centered men have torn down, other-centered men can build up."

There will always be voices that say it is not good to raise standards too high; it's not good to be as audacious as Martin Luther King.

We in Oregon should listen to other voices; voices that speak of the power of the mind and spirit to change the world.

This state holds the environmental standard high -- it is like a flag waving high on the top of a mountain.

History tells us that when societies get poor, when people's ability to lead independent lives falters, then the flag will fall.

For as playwright Vaclav Havel found when he took the reins of power over in Czechoslovakia, "We have laid waste to our soil and the rivers and the forests our forefathers bequeathed us, and we have the worst environment in all of Europe today."

The test for us is whether we can maintain our vision of a flag flying high on a mountaintop...

To avoid poverty

To create self-fulfillment

To keep our covenant with the land

I ask you, if not in Oregon, then where?

###