

House Resolution 5

Sponsored by Representatives KAHL, READ, HANNA; Representatives BAILEY, BARKER, BARNHART, BARTON, BENTZ, BERGER, BEYER, BOONE, BRUUN, BUCKLEY, CAMERON, CANNON, CLEM, COWAN, DEMBROW, C EDWARDS, D EDWARDS, FREEMAN, GALIZIO, GARRARD, GARRETT, GELSER, GILLIAM, GILMAN, GREENLICK, HARKER, HOLVEY, HUFFMAN, HUNT, JENSON, KENNEMER, KOMP, KOTEK, KRIEGER, MATTHEWS, MAURER, NATHANSON, NOLAN, OLSON, RICHARDSON, RILEY, ROBLAN, SCHAUFLE, SHIELDS, G SMITH, J SMITH, SPRENGER, STIEGLER, THATCHER, THOMPSON, TOMEI, VANORMAN, WHISNANT, WINGARD, WITT

SUMMARY

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure **as introduced**.

Honors former Governor Victor G. Atiyeh for his achievements.

HOUSE RESOLUTION

1
2 Whereas Victor G. Atiyeh is a native Oregonian, a lifelong Washington County resident, the
3 husband of Dolores and the father of two children; and

4 Whereas Victor G. Atiyeh was a successful businessman prior to embarking upon a career of
5 public service; and

6 Whereas Victor G. Atiyeh honorably served in the Oregon Legislative Assembly both in the
7 House of Representatives and the Senate; and

8 Whereas Victor G. Atiyeh, in his long-term service to the Boy Scouts of America, holds the
9 highest council and regional adult leadership awards; and

10 Whereas Victor G. Atiyeh won a decisive victory, attracting 55 percent of the vote in the
11 Oregon Governor's race in 1978; and

12 Whereas Victor G. Atiyeh was the first elected governor of Arab descent in the United States;
13 and

14 Whereas Governor Atiyeh demonstrated courage, leadership and bipartisanship when faced with
15 the economic decline in the early 1980s, which resulted in a jobless rate of 12.1 percent and a deficit
16 of nearly 20 percent of the state budget; and

17 Whereas Victor G. Atiyeh cut his own salary three times to help balance the budget; and

18 Whereas during Victor G. Atiyeh's first term of office as Governor, he improved state manage-
19 ment productivity and reformed workers' compensation and welfare; and

20 Whereas during Victor G. Atiyeh's first term, major new programs in energy and economic de-
21 velopment were launched, which helped create thousands of diversified jobs and attract new indus-
22 tries to Oregon following the decline in the timber industry; and

23 Whereas Victor G. Atiyeh won his second term by attracting 61.6 percent of the vote, the larg-
24 est gubernatorial margin in 32 years; and

25 Whereas Victor G. Atiyeh launched a worldwide tourism initiative and opened Oregon's first
26 overseas trade office in Tokyo; and

27 Whereas Victor G. Atiyeh reinstated a state employee suggestion program that saved Oregon
28 taxpayers hundreds of thousands of dollars annually; and

NOTE: Matter in **boldfaced** type in an amended section is new; matter [*italic and bracketed*] is existing law to be omitted. New sections are in **boldfaced** type.

1 Whereas Victor G. Atiyeh provided leadership in the creation of a community-based and long-
2 term care system, which enables older citizens of this state to enjoy their later years in health,
3 honor and dignity, and entitles citizens with disabilities to enjoy lives of maximum freedom and in-
4 dependence, while also saving Oregon taxpayers millions of dollars annually; and

5 Whereas Victor G. Atiyeh was described as the “most accessible Governor” by Oregon depart-
6 ment managers; and

7 Whereas Victor G. Atiyeh was instrumental in establishing Oregon Food Share, the nation’s first
8 statewide food bank; and

9 Whereas Victor G. Atiyeh served as chairman of the Western Governors Conference and as vice
10 chairman of the National Governors Association Committees on International Trade, Foreign Re-
11 lations, Criminal Justice and Public Protection; and

12 Whereas Victor G. Atiyeh received the Oregon Statesman Award from the Oregon Business
13 Association, the Distinguished Alumnus Award from the University of Oregon’s Department of
14 Planning, Public Policy and Management and the Distinguished Service Award from the University
15 of Oregon faculty; and

16 Whereas Victor G. Atiyeh served as the first chairman of the Oregon Aviation Hall of Honor
17 Committee; and

18 Whereas Victor G. Atiyeh furthered his legacy of bipartisanship by co-chairing the “Yes on
19 49” campaign, supporting 2006’s Ballot Measure 49, with former Governors Barbara Roberts and
20 John Kitzhaber, and current Governor Ted Kulongoski; and

21 Whereas Victor G. Atiyeh has faithfully served the people of Oregon for 50 years; now, there-
22 fore,

23 **Be It Resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of Oregon:**

24 That we, the members of the House of Representatives of the Seventy-fifth Legislative Assembly,
25 extend our gratitude to Victor G. Atiyeh for his 50 years of selfless public service, one-third of the
26 life of our great state, and for his innumerable achievements and contributions to the betterment
27 of the State of Oregon.

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