

Vic Atiyeh In My Opinion Piece

AS SENT TO NEWS PAPER

### Courage and Conviction Are Rare These Days

It takes a certain amount of courage to run for an elected office. You have to be willing to put yourself and your life out there for other people to judge and comment about. You have to be willing to put your business, your personal life, really your entire life into trying to be elected. It's not easy and that is why it is so hard to watch one candidate's overzealous attack campaign plan. It is unacceptable.

If one really looks at her as a public servant, you will find so many remarkable and constructive actions during her career.

Chris Telfer has brought jobs to Central Oregon and she has worked hard to bring prosperity back to an area hit particularly hard by the economic recession. \$50 million dollars went into creating jobs and supporting local businesses thanks to Chris Telfer. She has helped cut regulations and streamline government allowing businesses the opportunity to grow, prosper and hire.

Her background as a CPA has helped find hundreds of millions of dollars in state agency budgets that should be used for other purposes instead of as slush funds for departments and managers. She has protected seniors and veterans, fought for health care for small business and worked to reform our education system.

An education system including OSU's Cascade Campus which Chris Telfer helped save from the chopping block and then worked to successfully turn into a four-year college.

Her work for Central Oregon has been exemplary and maybe more importantly, she was able to do it as a member of the minority party in the Senate, not an easy feat and not one many people could do.

Chris also has a quality of conviction about her, a dedication to doing what is right but not always what is popular. She has been a voice of reason in the Legislature, finding ways to work with all of her colleagues and pass important legislation to help the area she represents.

It's always easier to speak out against something without having a real solution. A true statesman and leader is someone who works with others to find the best solution which isn't always the one he or she started out thinking it would be. Chris Telfer is that kind of leader.

Chris's conviction and her extraordinary courage have served Central Oregon well. She will continue to do what is right to help others in her role as State Senator when she is re-elected.

Chris Telfer is someone you can be proud of to represent you as State Senator. I know you cannot please everybody all of the time. You do what you think is right for your constituents. I think Chris Telfer has done the right things. I urge you to vote for Chris Telfer for State Senate.

Governor Victor Atiyeh  
519 SW Park, Suite 208  
Portland, OR 97205  
503-222-2244 (w)  
503-292-0101 (c)

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Governor Atiyeh