Atiyeh names task force on trade

By ERIC GORANSON
of The Oregonian staff

Gov. Vic Atiyeh has named eight Oregonians to a maritime task force and charged it with a broad examination of ways the state and ports can boost trade.

The governor reportedly has budgeted $200,000 to get the study under way. He asked the task force to complete the study by Oct. 1, 1986. Included would be recommendations on legislation and financial ways to improve port operations. The governor did not go as far as recommending the study of the pros and cons of creating a statewide port authority.

Named to the body were Frank Martin, general manager of the Oregon International Port of Coos Bay; Art Riedel, president of Riedel International; James Beall, Portland attorney; Peter Beckett, Jones Oregon Stevedoring Co.; Capt. Geoff Stone, Columbia River pilot; Wes Grilley of the Oregon Wheat Growers Association; Jan Mauritz, vice president of Louis Dreyfus Corp. in Portland; and Lloyd Anderson, executive director of the Port of Portland.

The committee will hire one staff person and use the state funds for consultant fees.

It is charged with examination of three specific things:

It will review economic and transportation impediments affecting the capabilities of Oregon's ports in meeting domestic and international trade needs. Toward that end, it also will assess port capital budgets, planning and research, rail and highway transportation, planned maritime sites and ownership patterns, market capabilities and dredging and environmental considerations.

A second major examination will deal with the roll of ports and private industry in maritime developments. It also will recommend ways to improve cooperation and assistence among ports to reduce competition between public bodies and private industries.

And it will examine alternate organizational structures that can improve Oregon's effectiveness in port and maritime trade developments, while preserving the existing port structures in serving as local economic development agencies.