What Atiyeh told legislators

what is reported.

So often in the past when I was quoted in the media, my wife would say, "Why didn't you say . . . (whatever she thought I should have said)." Most often I would tell her that I did say what she thought I should have said but I cannot control

Well, it happened again. Two letters were written criticizing my appearance before the Oregon House Revenue Committee ("Atiyeh no friend of tax cuts" and "Atiyeh ignores spending cuts," July 6).

Here is what I said to the committee:

"First, do everything you can to stimulate our economy to get our taxpaying citizens back to work. Second, no more studies, interim committees or task forces. It has been studied to death.

Third, put common sense into spending. Decide on the essentials versus the desirable. Let Oregonians know what you are doing and that you are on their side.

"Fourth, speak out and let Oregonians know that we really do have a problem. Fifth — and you should notice it is the fifth — straighten out the tax mess. Sixth, I urge you to dust off the 1985 tax measure. It reduced income taxes, controlled the growth of property taxes and — heaven forbid — instituted a sales tax."

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