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Ferrioli presents contrasting, optimistic message at Associated Press 2017 Oregon Legislative Preview Senate Republican Leader Ted Ferrioli offers much more optimistic view of upcoming session than Democrats

SALEM, Ore.-Contrasting tones were presented today at The Associated Press 2017 Oregon Legislative Preview at the Oregon State Capitol.

Senate Republican Leader Ted Ferrioli, of John Day, said:

"Senate Republicans have presented proposal after proposal on the critical issues facing urban and rural Oregonians. The stakes are too high to ignore transportation, PERS and education problems, and they are too high to disregard collaborating with Republicans offering fair, legal and sustainable fixes.

"We have offered a compromise, let's set carbon-reduction targets, let's allow fuel blenders to blend-up or blend-down, and let's prevent skyrocketing costs at the pump.

"Why don't we start with a cost-benefit analysis of low carbon fuel standards and why don't we look at alternatives to achieve carbon reduction. I don't know any Republicans who are saying 'it's all or nothing.' If you want to have real compromise, we must be flexible and use the greatest opportunities in technology to achieve carbon reduction.

"When it comes to the Trump administration, we should be focused on Oregon, what we can do here to improve our state and keep the rhetoric stabilized and put a stop to the partisan drama. We should keep our powder dry and not add fuel to the fire."

The event began with a meet and greet session and a welcome from Jim Pollock, the AP's director of regional media for the Pacific Northwest, Oregon News Editor Terrance Petty and Correspondent Andrew Selsky. The welcome was followed by Senate and House leadership panels and a presentation from the Gov. Kate Brown.