Wyden downplays Trump's trade deal with China

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By Matthew Kish

Oregon's senior U.S. senator on Monday said President <u>Donald Trump</u> is getting ahead of himself by declaring victory in a trade war with China.

Trump reached an agreement with Chinese President Xi Jinping over the weekend to pause ongoing trade hostilities.

"It's an incredible deal. It goes down, certainly — if it happens, it goes down as one of the largest deals ever made," Trump said aboard Air Force One Saturday night, according to The New York Times.

Sen. Ron Wyden, speaking Monday at the annual Oregon Leadership Summit, downplayed the agreement.

"They made a deal to talk about making a deal," he said. "That's what happened over the weekend."

Wyden said one out of every five jobs in Oregon depends on international trade. Trump's trade policies have affected numerous Oregon companies that manufacture in Southeast Asia, including Columbia Sportswear.

Last week, <u>Columbia Sportswear CEO Tim Boyle spoke out</u> about Trump's trade policies. Wyden added to the criticism on Monday.

"What I have tried to tell the administration is trade is really based on a toolbox, a toolbox of various kinds of approaches you might use," Wyden said. "Just going with tariffs ... is sort of a one-trick pony that isn't going to win the rodeo. We're going to have to think this through to a more coherent kind of strategy."