

tate a much-needed revision of the executive branch of the State government. The failure of the proposed Constitution left standing the urgent need to modernize and streamline an apparatus of government which has grown overly large, old, cumbersome, outmoded and wastefully expensive over a period of many years.

I have appointed a special committee of eminently qualified persons to study this problem and make recommendations to me and to the General Assembly how we can achieve this objective through statutory change. Significantly, the Committee will include a number of highly influential members of the Maryland Legislature and my immediate predecessor in this office, Governor J. Millard Tawes, who demonstrated his interest in modernizing the executive branch before he left office.

Mr. John N. Curlett, President of McCormick and Company of Baltimore and head of a similar type study commission appointed by former Governor Tawes in 1966, has agreed to serve as Chairman.

Serving with him in addition to former Governor Tawes will be:

The President of the Maryland Senate, the Honorable William S. James of Harford County.

The Speaker of the House of Delegates, the Honorable Marvin Mandel of Baltimore City.

The Chairmen of the fiscal committees of the Maryland Legislature, Senator Harry R. Hughes and Delegate William M. Houck.

The Honorable John A. Luetkemeyer, Treasurer of the State of Maryland.

The Honorable C. Stanley Blair, Secretary of State of Maryland.

John G. Lauber, Director of the Governor's Task Force on Modern Management.

Senator Jervis S. Finney of Baltimore County.

Delegate John Stuart McInerney of Montgomery County.

James R. Miller, Jr., Montgomery County attorney and former member of the Maryland House of Delegates.

I have given this Committee a virtual blank check to examine all aspects of the present structure of the executive branch and to recommend whatever changes it thinks desirable. From the very nature of its make-up, I think the citizens of Maryland and the General Assembly can expect a totally objective and seasoned examination of the executive branch and recommendations on which there can be widespread agreement.