

1 I don't know of any matter that is going to come
2 before you or that has come before you that is as important
3 as that which faces you now. I urge you to turn down
4 this amendment. This amendment would literally destroy
5 the budget system as we know it in Maryland, and as it has
6 worked for a half-century, giving us sound government.

7 I am rather intrigued at the fact that this amend-
8 ment is presented at this time in this fashion. There
9 were no persons, committees, or recommendations appearing
10 before our committee urging what is called for in this
11 amendment except the two or three members of the committee
12 who were from the legislature who discussed it.

13 We have had nothing in public hearings urging
14 that we strike the guts out of the system we now have and
15 put in its place what would be the greatest opportunity
16 for log-rolling in the General Assembly that man could
17 conceive.

18 Let me tell you how this operates: The budget
19 is a long, detailed document submitted by the governor.
20 When the budget is passed, it is in and of itself a law.
21 If another law is being considered, you get an opportunity