

worthy their cause, I urget you not to be swayed by pleas that, if granted, would create an unfair and at this time economically un-sound allotment of taxpayer funds.

Finally, you as the legislative representatives of the people and I as their Governor have as our first responsibility the welfare of all of the people of our State.

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## STATE OF THE STATE MESSAGE

January 4, 1961

Mr. President, Mr. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the General Assembly:

It is a pleasure to welcome you once more to Annapolis and to join with you in the opening of this annual convocation of the representatives of the people of Maryland. I am here at your invitation to perform a constitutional duty of the Chief Executive to report to you on the condition of our State and to plan with you concerning its future.

I hardly need remind you that the session we face is a most important one for the people we represent. We have reached the half-way mark of the term to which we were elected, and, to a very great degree the ultimate score the people of Maryland give us on our performance will be determined by what we do here during the next 90 days. It behooves us, therefore, to work with diligence, with clear-sightedness and with conscientious dedication to purpose, to the end that we may not be found wanting when final accounts are settled.

It is my purpose here today to review and assess the activities of the first half of this Administration and to outline what I consider to be the proper course we must take to attain the degree of success we both desire and expect during the next two years. But first, I should like to discuss with you some developments which are occurring in our State—developments which I believe will profoundly influence the thinking and behavior of our people and which therefore must be kept constantly in mind in any decisions we make affecting them.

I have in mind, for one thing, the population growth, which during