

associations and their insurers, thus affording to investors in these institutions safeguards they heretofore have not had

The legislation creating a new Municipal Court for Baltimore City affects primarily the people of that city, but in a very real sense it is legislation of Statewide import, since the courts of the city are an integral part of our State judicial system

As a practical matter, the redrawing of internal political boundaries is one of the most difficult tasks a state legislative body is ever called upon to undertake. The General Assembly faced that task this year when it confronted the problem of realigning the Congressional Districts to accommodate an additional Congressman allotted to Maryland in the 1960 census. The new Eighth District created by the General Assembly is comprised of Prince George's and Howard Counties, which were taken from the largest district, the Fifth. Baltimore City precincts of the Brooklyn and Curtis Bay area were shifted from the Fifth to the all-city Third District. *By petition, this legislation has been referred to the voters of the State in a referendum and I will reserve comment on it at this time.*

Our program of traffic safety was advanced a step further this year when the General Assembly approved a bill providing for driver education courses in our public high schools Maryland becomes a safer State with every mile of new highway that is constructed in our stepped-up road-building program. We have attempted to improve law enforcement by making annual additions to the strength of the Maryland State Police. Forty new patrolmen have been added to the force, as has been the case every year since I became Governor. The budget was amended at this session to give salary increases to State Troopers, a measure designed to attract the most qualified men to these important positions. Another bill placing the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles under the classified service will, we believe, enhance the operation of the point system, which is a mainstay in our program of traffic safety.

With the cooperation of the General Assembly, I undertook at the beginning of my term to revise and reorganize some of the departments and agencies of the State government to increase their efficiency and their effectiveness. Included were the State Roads Commission, the Department of Tidewater Fisheries, the Planning Department and the Department of Assessments and Taxation. New agencies created included the Department of Economic Development and the Commission on the Aging.

This program to improve administration was advanced another step