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PRESENT STRUCTURE

Maryland's government, like that of the other states, has passed through an incredibly rapid evolution in the last two decades. Both the nature and size of its responsibilities and services have expanded substantially. Actually, of course, our entire society and economy have experienced unparalleled growth and become vastly more complex. *Government, as the means by which we assure a tolerable measure of order and harmony among us, has inevitably grown and become more complex as a part of those underlying developments.* The expansion of governmental programs and purposes has been accompanied by increases in budget requirements, personnel, the number of agencies and boards, and methods of operation. Yet the organization of the executive branch that gives coherence to all those burgeoning activities has been updated only slightly. It now consists of 105 executive departments, commissions and other special operations established by law and tied together primarily by their direct line of authority to the Governor. In addition to that administrative apparatus of 105 agencies, commissions and other administrative offices tied directly to the Governor by law, there are another 43 special commissions appointed by and responsible to him — or almost 150 in all. These have accumulated over the course of a number of decades, set up usually in response to immediate needs but with little regard to the cumulative effect or their relation to on-going activities.

It simply makes no sense, for example, for the Governor to be directly responsible by law for the state anatomy board, department of post-mortem examiners, cosmetology board, sundry claims board, board of boiler rules, and board of chiropractic examiners, plus over a score of other such boards. Nor should individual institutions like St. Mary's College, Morgan State College, and the Patuxent Institution, all admirable facilities, have direct lines of authority to the State's chief executive while similar institutions do not. Those are only a few of many possible examples. But they suggest the unnecessary detail which can come to a Governor, and the specialized boards and agencies which are now immediately connected to him. They indicate the historical disarray that has developed in the State's executive apparatus over the course of many decades.

Turning to areas of wider substantive impact, it is illogical to maintain a number of administrative offices concerned with the State's transportation problems, yet for them not to be grouped together and