

STATEMENT ON ESTABLISHMENT OF
TRAFFIC SAFETY ADVISORY COUNCIL

ANNAPOLIS

June 30, 1966

I wish to announce today the establishment of a Traffic Safety Advisory Council comprised of the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles, the Chairman-Director of the State Roads Commission, the Superintendent of Maryland State Police and a representative from my office.

Mr. William Prescott Allen, publisher of the *Bethesda-Chevy Chase Tribune*, has consented to serve as Chairman of the Council and as Special Assistant to the Governor for Traffic Safety. The council will be instructed to establish and maintain liaison with the appropriate agencies of the federal government to implement Johnson's traffic safety program when it clears the Congress and becomes effective.

In accordance with a recommendation made to me by the Governor's Committee on Traffic Safety, the Council is also directed to draft a comprehensive program of traffic safety for introduction at the 1967 session of the General Assembly. I will expect the Council to produce a series of recommendations from proposals now under consideration by the State Roads Commission, the Department of Motor Vehicles and the Maryland State Police, in addition to some studies that are being made by the medical chirurgical faculty and others.

Concerning the Council's responsibility for liaison with the federal government, it has been pointed out to me that the bill pending in the Congress would require states to have a highway safety program approved by the Secretary of Commerce. Otherwise, they risk losing up to 25 per cent of their share of federal highway money and federal grants that would be made available under the Act. The Council will be expected to have Maryland prepared to meet these federal requirements.
