NEWS RELEASE AND STATEMENT ON QUALIFIED CANDIDATES FOR CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION

April 2, 1967

Governor Agnew called today on well qualified Maryland citizens to offer themselves as candidates for the convention which will rewrite the 100-year-old State Constitution this fall.

"This will be one of the most important public services that a citizen of Maryland can perform in his lifetime," the Governor said in a statement.

"The opportunity sought for so long by so many to give the State a modern, workable basic document of government has at last arrived.

"But the end result from the work that will start in Annapolis September 12th can only be as good as the quality of the delegates sent to achieve it.

"I urge all civic groups, professional associations, business and labor organizations throughout Maryland to encourage their most outstanding members to seek election as delegates in the special election to be held June 13th.

"There is broad agreement among leaders of both major political parties that this is a nonpartisan task. The convention is no place for political hacks or hangers-on.

"It needs people who will be energetic, imaginative and devoted to the work to be done.

"This will be a difficult, demanding, and, in some ways, a thankless job. No one should consider serving unless he is prepared to make a lot of sacrifices. The reward will be found in the achievement.

"Maryland has the brains and talent in communities throughout this great State to fashion a constitution that can serve as a model for our sister states.

"Let us see those best qualified to do the job come forth and offer themselves as candidates."