

the State to talk to local governments should prove most beneficial to them and to us. I was very pleased with our recent visits to Cecil County and to Harford County. The fact that not only the local executives and the commissioners were there, but that many of the legislators were there, seemed to evidence a great deal of interest in this executive-to-executive cooperation. So I think that as long as we continue to show we want to be cooperative in helping local government streamline its operation, and we keep them fully informed of what we're doing so they can do the same, there's a good chance that some of the good that our task force accomplishes will be reflected at what happens at the local level.

Q. Governor, the indication is that the task force study streamlining State government will result in a drop in personnel.

A. I would be surprised if there were not somewhat of a drop in personnel as a result of this study that's going to be made, an overall drop I'm talking about. There may be certain agencies where there may have to be an increase in personnel, and other agencies may be eliminated entirely. I don't want to say definitely what we're going to find because, frankly, I don't know. I do know there hasn't been a study made like this for a long time. And looking at the experience in business and industry, I do know that when this type of study is made, some rather startling information usually develops.

Q. In one of your conferences, Governor, you indicated that there has to be a change in the formula of the distribution of the gasoline tax. Do you plan a special study commission on this?

A. Not a special study commission. The Legislature has just appointed a joint committee to which I am going to add several members at their request to continue the study of business taxation. And it's the feeling of the Legislature, that while this study on business taxation is completed, a concurrent study could be made by the same group on motor vehicle revenues, and this would not be restricted to the gasoline tax but would cover all types of motor vehicle revenues.

Q. Governor, in the area of the Task Force on Modern Management study, do you expect that its recommendations will actually result in elimination or firing people from a job?

A. Well, I would think that it would be a very unusual situation that we actually fire somebody from a job, but I do think that we may very well stop hiring in certain areas and we may transfer some people to other areas of greater usefulness.