

The bill principally affects those who engage in the business of constructing and selling homes for profit, not on individual order but in the development of whole subdivisions.

To me, this bill represents a logical and inevitable extension of the philosophy that is embodied in the public accommodations law. They both require that commodities sold to the general public for profit be sold on an equal basis to all citizens.

I campaigned for this type of fair housing law in the election last year. Although the bill before us is slightly more restrictive than my campaign position, I am pleased to sign it as the best possible compromise that could be obtained and a realistic approach to opening up huge new segments of housing to all of our citizens.

To those who would decry the limitations in this bill, I remind them that it is a solid achievement—not another legislative defeat. And I predict it will win the acceptance of the general public, instead of generating more controversy and conflict.

It is also my pleasure to sign today an extension of the 1964 public accommodations laws. Senate Bill 173 brings under provisions of the act such places as motion picture houses, theaters, concert halls and sports arenas, and in general brings the State law into conformity with Federal legislation.

STATEMENT ON SIGNING HOUSE BILL 348

(HARBOR TUNNEL AND BAY BRIDGE LEGISLATION)

April 21, 1967

It gives me a great deal of pleasure today to sign this legislation which will bring order out of chaos in the planning of our toll structures and put the authority for such planning where it rightfully belongs—in our State Roads Commission.

This bill authorizes the Commission to build a second Baltimore Harbor tunnel and three additional crossings of the Chesapeake Bay. It is empowered to determine the order in which these structures are to be built and, of equal importance, to start preliminary planning and the acquisition of rights-of-way now for all of them before land costs soar to astronomical proportions. These features of the bill will