I am confident that the people will want a fresh and vital constitution, that they are wise enough to appreciate reform and accept innovation. I have faith that neither you nor they will be misled; that if you create an honest and vibrant document, the people will support and ratify it.

REVIEW OF DRAFT CONSTITUTION'S PROVISIONS IN ARTICLE IV

(Prepared in Conjunction with Testimony before the Committee on the Executive Branch)

October 10, 1967

This review is intentionally limited to the parts of the Draft Constitution I enthusiastically endorse or seriously question. Even here, however, I feel that there is room for further discussion and continued call for compromise based upon responsible differences and practical considerations.

Section 4.02 Duties of Lieutenant Governor

I fully support the creation of the office of Lieutenant Governor. The present demands on the time and energies of the Governor of Maryland virtually dictate the development of a supportive post if the executive office is to fulfill all its functions, duties, and obligations to the public.

By deliberately not assigning specific duties to the Lieutenant Governor and delegating this responsibility to the Governor and General Assembly, this provision assures essential flexibility for the future. It enables the newly created office to be developed freely and effectively in response to immediate and practical needs.

Section 4.03 Governor

The eligibility requirements establish reasonable and pragmatic safeguards. The requirement that the Governor shall have been a qualified voter in the State for at least two years immediately preceding his election assures interest in and familiarity with the State, yet does not overemphasize residency at the expense of capability, which is the primary requisite. Further, it may logically be assumed that political realities would mitigate the probability of a newcomer's winning his Party's nomination for Governor, since it takes time to develop the identity and political support necessary to win the gubernatorial nomination.