

much of the conflict and pleasure of life is determined. We do not ask to be born short or tall, lean or fat, light or dark, straight or bent. We do not choose a father and mother, a family, a neighborhood, a school, a city, a country or a continent. Until much later do we even become aware that who we are and what we are has already to some extent been happily or tragically predetermined. But it is then, at that sudden and critical point of awakening, that we must make our issue with the world. It is then that one of favor must decide how to impart his gift, and that one deprived by fate or circumstances must aggressively seek the magic key to unlock his fetters.

And if it appears that fortune weighs mightily in favor of the man with bounty, and condemns to uncertainty the other life, let us remember that it was Lincoln who was President, and men forgotten who tended the accounts.

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#### NEWS RELEASE ON TRAFFIC SAFETY LEGISLATION

February 20, 1967

A package of traffic safety legislation, including proposals to broaden the automobile inspection law and require chemical tests for suspected drunken drivers, will be introduced in the Maryland General Assembly Monday night under sponsorship of the Agnew administration.

The Governor said the bills are not only necessary and desirable from a traffic safety standpoint, but also will bring Maryland well along the way toward substantial compliance with the Federal Highway Safety Act of 1966.

Other legislation will be necessary next year if the State is to fully comply with the Federal program and not suffer any loss of aid for highway construction through penalties. In Maryland's case, a penalty for noncompliance could amount to \$6 million a year.

But Governor Agnew stressed that the principal objective of the program is not so much compliance with Federal standards as it is to enact stronger traffic safety laws needed to reduce the death toll in Maryland.

"Last year there were 754 persons killed on the highways of our State," he said. "While I am fully aware that laws alone cannot substantially reduce this slaughter, I feel very strongly that we have an obligation to try."