

I've already voiced an objection to single member districts on the basis that it's an incentive to parochialism and leads to abuses because of the small number of registered voters who absolutely control the political destiny of an individual in office. We exchanged our viewpoints and I suggested that the compromise that's already been proposed was a good one, the premise of having districts composed of one senator and three delegates. This, I think, meets their very legitimate objection to very large districts composed of as many as eight delegates, and yet does away with the disadvantages of a single member district.

Q. How would this affect Montgomery County which has sixteen delegates now?

A. It would mean that in each voting district there would be no more than three delegates.

Q. Governor, the General Fund requests prior to the revenue estimates are about 33 percent over last year's appropriations. At this point, what would this increase have to be trimmed in order to balance the budget?

A. It's my recollection, without having verified these figures, I've heard it said that based on our latest estimates 15% would be the maximum increase that could be handled. I'm not sure that is entirely accurate because these things fit into Federally financed programs and in other ways that might make this figure an over-simplification. But I think it's substantially less, of course, than what's been proposed. Again I would like to emphasize that even though we may have to cut back a lot further than we would like to in the realm of some very vital programs, if future revenue estimates indicate that the Comptroller has been too pessimistic in his prognostications, then I think we may be able by supplemental budget to restore some of the more critically cut funds.

Q. How do you see the Special Funds revenue picture?

A. We are expecting to make some decisions based on the Redding Committee Report of the highway situation and of course the business tax structure reforms are already in hand. These to some extent involve Special Funds and to some extent General Funds. As far as the highway picture is concerned, I think we are in bad shape because of the jockeying around with the Federal picture. We still don't know where we stand entirely with regard to the cuts and abridgments of Federal highway money that the President through the Secretary of