

legally impossible prior to acquisition of the property as the improvements could not be constructed.

I might also point out that the incumbent County Administrative Officer, Mr. William E. Fornoff, was in a similar position during my administration and served on the Executive Board which reviewed all Public Works Agreements prior to my signature.

#### Questions and Answers

##### (Medicaid)

Q. Governor, the Hospital Council of Maryland requested that you rescind your Medicaid cutback order. Do you have any comment?

A. Yes, I have a meeting with the Hospital Council scheduled for Friday of this week – I am not sure of the hour. I am going to discuss the Medicaid cutbacks with them. I met this morning with the Maryland Hospital Commission to discuss the same subject. I would say that the position of the State of Maryland and the action we took is no different than that taken in eight other states which were forced to their knees for the same reason. I can't see any possibility – unless the revenue estimates that will come in January or February indicate a more favorable position – of our being able to restore the cuts that we made. But I do want to emphasize that we have not in any way curtailed or reduced payments for anyone on welfare or any person who is blind or disabled or for aid to families with children.

Q. It was reported that this cutback order would affect about 60% of the people in the inner City.

A. Well, I guess that you would find that percentage is less than the total number of people on welfare in the inner City; so I would imagine, and I have no way of verifying this, but I would imagine that there are fewer people in the inner City on this particular program than in any other phase of assistance.

##### (Constitutional Convention)

Q. Governor, do you have any comment on the Con Con -- in upholding the single-member district?

A. I took my position on single-member districts, and you will recall that I favored the compromise of the three-man House of Delegates district – one senator, three members of the House of Delegates. I made my arguments and they have not yet been persuasive with the majority of the convention. This will not prevent my supporting the draft constitution. I don't agree with the result they reached, but they reached it after deliberation and consideration, and I think that