

With tax reform, and specifically the program we are proposing, the State recognizes its obligation to assist in the protection of life and property and would provide more than \$15 million in the very first year, and no less in succeeding years, for this purpose.

Number Six:

Without tax reform, or without drastically increasing property taxes, it is impossible for the local subdivisions to keep up with the current need for new school construction, the demand for better teacher pay, or to seriously consider forward-looking innovations in the public school system.

With tax reform, we provide for new school construction, expanded vocational-technical opportunities, kindergartens, and keep faith with the teaching profession. Sixty-five million dollars or more than 54 percent of all revenues collected under this program is specifically earmarked for education.

Now I could go into the sevens and eights and nines of what tax reform will mean to Maryland, but I think the main points have been made.

Tax reform will do more than any single measure to remove from the affairs of Maryland what George McGovern, the senator from South Dakota, calls the "Crisis Mentality." His outspoken thesis which appeared in the January issue of *The Atlantic* states that it is not our State but our national leadership that is to be censured for creating crisis, spreading crisis, imagining crisis, and failing to recognize true crisis where it truly exists.

It is good that Senator McGovern did not turn his pen to Maryland, for we, in the past, have ourselves been crisis makers and we must vow it shall not happen again.

I'm not expecting every delegate of every county to accept every detail of every section of the bill. There should be honest and intelligent debate on such an important and far-reaching measure. Proper and perceptive analysis is not merely the prerogative but the very duty of our elected representatives.

As Lincoln said: "The true rule, in determining to embrace, or reject anything, is not whether it have any evil in it; but whether it have more of evil, than of good. There are few things wholly evil or wholly good. Almost every thing . . . is an inseparable compound of the two; so that our best judgment of the preponderance between them is continually demanded."