

Q. Do you think the substitution of recognition of your authority rather than vesting you with the authority makes any difference?

A. I don't think it makes any difference. It's only in the recital which isn't part of the law anyhow.

Q. Governor, do you think a statement from you would be wise since people, particularly on the Eastern Shore in the Cambridge area, are charging that this bill is for intimidation?

A. Let me say this. The word intimidation, if you're going to apply it to law breakers, is one I would subscribe to. Yes I hope it will intimidate anyone who decides he's going to take the law in his own hands. As far as intimidation against citizens who wish to use a legitimate right of protest in demonstrating within the law, these bills are not intended for that purpose and couldn't have any effect on that kind of exercise of civil protest. But I'm going to do everything that I can to intimidate those who would break our laws and I don't mind using this word in that context. And if a person comes in with efforts to incite people to break the law, which is clearly the breaking of the law itself, yes, it is intended to intimidate.

NEWS RELEASE AND STATEMENT ON ROCKEFELLER HEADQUARTERS IN ANNAPOLIS

March 14, 1968

Governor Spiro T. Agnew announced today the opening of a national office to coordinate and give direction to the efforts of volunteer committees for Rockefeller throughout the United States.

The Maryland Governor will serve as temporary chairman of the organization, the first to be formed on a national basis in support of a Rockefeller bid for the Presidency. It will be known as "The National Rockefeller '68 Committee."

Governor Agnew said he is opening the office in Annapolis "with the encouragement and support of other backers of Governor Nelson Rockefeller who fully expect him to become an active and declared candidate for the Republican Presidential nomination."

"It will be an interim operation, serving only until a permanent national campaign office is established under a full-time chairman," the Governor said.