

A. 2.7 million? Most of the legislative cuts in the budget were in the area of increased turnover expectancy. While our budget people think that they've been playing this thing quite narrowly, that we may run into a deficiency situation because of it — and it's potential that it could happen — I can't quarrel with the fact that they've made the cuts. They've made their judgment and the Legislature's function is to cut the budget. I am glad we were able to get them to put back the correctional phases that they did put back in, and several other things that we considered highly important. If they are wrong, and they've cut too closely, we'll simply have to come in with a deficiency appropriation next year.

Q. Isn't the increased turnover expectancy likely to clash head-on with your increased estimates — in other words reversions — this turnover expectancy has a built-in factor, doesn't it?

A. Well that's true, and you'll notice that they didn't increase reversions as they generally do. I can't tell you whether they've been too close in their estimating or whether they haven't, but I feel that they've taken a substantial risk in this turnover expectancy figure. We'll have to wait and see how it comes out.

Q. Getting back to Medicaid, sir. Delegate Abrams said that she is going to contact you to ask you to put back some money in the Medicaid program and that she is going to ask that you put it back from the money that had been cut by the Finance Committees of the Legislature. Has she contacted you?

A. I had a letter from Delegate Abrams that I just acknowledged yesterday, but I hadn't had an opportunity to go into it. The letter, for the most part, relates to her comments on the Nelson Committee's findings. Whether it also contains a comment in regard to this I am not certain at the moment.

Q. Governor, do you still plan to call a special session in June if the Constitution is adopted?

A. Well, that will depend on the Constitutional Convention Committee, and on Mr. Eney, and on Senator James, and Speaker Mandel as to the timing and the necessity for such a session. I have seen the opinion fluctuate between the absolute need for such, to some people feeling that we should avoid such a session. Naturally we don't want to call it unless it is absolutely necessary.

Q. Governor, do you have any comments to make about Comptroller Goldstein's most recent estimates of future revenue for the State of Maryland?