

You have faced with me the frustrations of a tight budget and resisted temptations and entreaties to increase State spending in the face of an uncertain revenue outlook.

The broadening of our Statewide public accommodations law to include taverns strikes down yet another artificial barrier of racial discrimination.

The acquisition of Friendship Airport by the State should lead to its development as a first class facility, and in general pave the way for improvement of all of our air facilities in Maryland, small airports as well as large.

I am naturally disappointed that you have deferred for one year administration proposals to meet immediate problems in the areas of community mental health and alcoholism, college loans and scholarships, mass transit and more adequate housing for all of our citizens. But I realize new legislation is seldom accomplished overnight, and I am confident that your detailed study of these programs in the Legislative Council will lead to their improvement and enactment next year.

A major set-back of this session is our failure to enact any traffic safety legislation of a substantial nature. This is a problem that cannot be postponed indefinitely, especially if Maryland is to comply with requirements of the Federal Highway Safety Act. I am hopeful that the Legislature will join with me in producing a successful program for next year. I urge that you give the problem your most careful consideration during the intervening months.

But as a whole, the 1968 session of the General Assembly has been a productive one, and I commend you for your service.

NEWS RELEASE AND STATEMENT ON STUDY OF THERMAL WATER IN CHESAPEAKE BAY

March 28, 1968

Governor Agnew said today he has urged that the Federal government study the effects on marine life of hot water discharges into Chesapeake Bay from a nuclear power plant planned in Calvert County by the Baltimore Gas and Electric Company.