

Authority to provide incentives for low and middle-income housing.

8. Members of the Governor's staff are presently exploring the feasibility of creating a reconstruction development authority empowered to deal promptly with all the problems of restoring a riot-destroyed area.
9. The Governor has proposed that the Division of Consumer Protection make increased efforts to investigate complaints of excessive usury and credit practices, unfair charges for check cashing services and disproportionately high prices for such grocery items as bread, milk and eggs in the ghetto area.
10. The establishment by State Insurance Commissioner Newton Steers of a Riot Recovery Program which includes:
 - 1) *Four duty stations which have been set up, staffed by insurance advisors.*
 - 2) *Full priority being given to assist citizens in recovery claims.*
 - 3) *Meetings which have been set with insurance companies to expedite claims payments.*

NEWS RELEASE ON EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE TO VICTIMS OF CIVIL DISORDERS

April 23, 1968

Governor Agnew announced today that he has directed Raleigh Hobson, Director of the State Department of Public Welfare, to use all possible resources to meet the needs of victims of the recent civil disorders in Baltimore.

Federal support is available for emergency help through the Welfare Department which includes:

- 1) Emergency financial aid, both grants and loans;
- 2) Medical care;
- 3) Social and legal services;
- 4) Home repairs for public assistance recipients.

In addition, emergency assistance to meet riot caused needs can be provided to families with children who do not otherwise qualify for Federal assistance, the Governor said.