

but I have talked to a large number of members who have indicated that they favor it because it does, in a lot of respects, improve the stature of the Legislature.

Q. Senator James, how about you?

Senator James: Well, like Speaker Mandel, I have made no count but I would think from conversations that the Senate generally favors the adoption of the proposed Constitution. The position of the Legislature is certainly dignified by expanding the days in which it can operate; by giving the individual legislator a more prominent position; by the improvement of the procedures in the legislative operation; generally making the Legislature more important in the total picture.

Q. Judge, the majority of the Court are already on record as favorable.

Judge Hammond: I don't know. I haven't canvassed them but I would think so.

Senator James: One feature of it — the elimination of the local government function at the legislative level — is certainly a milestone in Maryland government. It will free the General Assembly to concentrate upon State problems. This, together with the lengthening of the number of days which the Legislature can sit and enabling the individual legislator to put more time on public problems, all these together are enormously beneficial to the General Assembly.

NEWS CONFERENCE

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Governor: I don't have any statements, but I thought since I've been away for over a week you may have some.

Questions and Answers

Q. Governor, the State Central Committee a few weeks ago just about unanimously asked you to run as Favorite Son. Are you considering it?

A. I'm still considering it. I must say I am flattered by the confidence of the State Central Committee, and I'm considering it for a little longer before I make a final decision. I'm leaning in the direction of accepting the assignment.