

NEWS RELEASE AND STATEMENT ON STUDY OF  
STATE ECONOMIES BY BUSINESS LEADERS

June 12, 1968

Governor Agnew announced today that he has asked Maryland business and industrial leaders to take a close, hard look at State government operations and recommend economies.

The survey team, which is expected to ultimately consist of approximately 100 prominent businessmen, will be headed by James J. McIntyre, partner in charge of the Baltimore office of the national accounting firm Price Waterhouse and Co.

Their survey will be underwritten entirely with private funds and Governor Agnew said they will have a free hand to explore every area of State government operations and make recommendations to him.

The study is expected to take six to eight months, but the Governor said that some recommendations will be implemented as they are received and without awaiting a final report. This is especially important, he said, in light of the State's current revenue problems.

"We anticipate some immediate and substantial savings as a result of this survey by business experts," the Governor said, "although many of their recommendations will probably be of a long range nature. I have had indications that the business community will participate broadly and with enthusiasm in this effort, and I expect full cooperation from all department and agency heads."

The Governor has held two exploratory meetings with business leaders at Government House on the project, patterned after similar studies which produced substantial savings in Ohio and California. He was assured of the cooperation of the private sector.

At a March 11 meeting, Kenneth Pryor, who headed the California study for Governor Reagan, explained details of the operation there. The second, follow-up meeting at which McIntyre was designated to lead the Maryland study came yesterday.

The Governor said the names of business leaders who are participating in the effort will not be announced until after McIntyre has had an opportunity to form the committee and set the study in motion.

The committee will be assisted on a technical basis by the Governor's Task Force on Modern Management, which has been conducting extensive preliminary studies of the executive branch of the State government.