

1 The General Assembly represents the people of
2 the state just as the Governor does. It is an equal and
3 co-extensive function of the General Assembly to exercise
4 its judgment as to what the public interest is. Every
5 argument that can be made against increasing the budget
6 can equally be made against the power of the legislature
7 to decrease the budget. We are confident that if logic
8 is our test, that you will come down on our side.

9 If modern budgetary practice is our test, we are
10 confident that you will agree with this amendment.

11 We realize that it is a break from tradition, but
12 we agree with the Sun editorial of a few days ago, it said
13 perhaps we should like to see if we cannot improve upon what
14 has been a very useful and constructive condition in the
15 budgeting in Maryland.

16 The amendment would not create a deficit. It
17 would not permit a profligate spending spree by the state
18 legislature. It would require before any increase could
19 become effective, it would have to receive the approval
20 of the Governor. If the Governor did not approve, then the
21 General Assembly would have to muster a three-fifths vote