

1 The majority's only important argument for the
2 abolition of this board is that since the Comptroller and
3 Treasurer are not responsible to the governor, he cannot
4 control the action of the Board, and that consequently the
5 Board may be used as an arena for internecine warfare.

6 This contention is in no way supported by fact.
7 Indeed, the Board's history over the last 45 years has been
8 one of harmony and cooperation, and no evidence has been
9 presented to our committee that the Comptroller and the
10 Treasurer have ever been contrary to the gubernatorial
11 policy.

12 Their presence on the Board has, however,
13 provided our State with a vital system of checks and
14 balances in the area of State finance on a day-to-day
15 basis. And with the continuity of government within the
16 executive branch, moreover, as truly independent elected
17 officials, their membership on this board insures that the
18 public may be aware of all the facts inherent in any import-
19 ant executive decision; and in these sensitive areas we
20 believe that the continued existence of the Board of Public
21 Works with these two independent elected officials, one