

1 the estimates may be considered necessary, or even ad-
2 vantageous, we cannot agree that the final decision for
3 the appropriation of funds should be placed in the hands
4 of the governor.

5 Let me remind you that the present condition
6 of public education in Baltimore City, in which an impar-
7 tial investigation of the schools has been arranged, has
8 come about, in large measure, because of the reductions of
9 the budget of the Board of School Commissioners which have
10 been made by the Mayor and the City Council over the past
11 ten years. One of the principal factors has been the
12 right of the City Council to reduce the numbers of teachers
13 to be employed -- with the effect that the City now has
14 many of the largest classes in the State.

15 Allow the governor to make an arbitrary, similar
16 cut of staffing positions, with the resulting lack of
17 available funds for this purpose to each subdivision, and
18 educational chaos will result in five years, and we will
19 be returned to the pre-1916 status of public education in
20 Maryland.

21 Finally, let me urge you, the members of the