## STATE OF MARYLAND EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT Annapolis, Maryland 21404

## April 27, 1978

TO: Elected Constitutional Officers, and Cabinet

Secretaries, State Officers and Employees

FROM: Thomas J. Peddicord, Jr., Chief Legislative

Officer

SUBJECT: Code of Ethics

Below is a proposed Executive Order released today by Acting Governor Blair Lee III as a proposed amendment to the State Code of Ethics. The Order will be effective July 1, 1978.

As stated in the preamble, the Order reflects many of the recommendations made to the Governor by the State Board of Ethics in a report dated December 7, 1977.

The major amendments made by the Order to the Code of Ethics are as follows:

- 1. The inclusion of elected Constitutional officers of the Executive Branch in the Code—Article V, Section 3.
- 2. A simpler, more objective gift provision—Article III, Section 1.
- 3. The exclusion of certain interests from the definition of "financial interest"—Article II, Section 6. This change reflects prior advisory opinions of the Board of Ethics.
- 4. A definition of "regulatory agency" and a standard applicable to members of such agencies—Article II, Section 10, and Article III, Section 7. This change also reflects prior advisory opinions of the Board of Ethics.

Acting Governor Lee is publishing this draft Executive Order at this time for the purpose of soliciting comments or suggestions from any interested State officer or employee. Please address any such comments or suggestions to me at Room 202, State House, Annapolis, Maryland 21404. All comments and suggestions must be received by May 19, 1978.

PROPOSED EXECUTIVE ORDER OF APRIL 27, 1978

01.01.1978.07 CODE OF ETHICS - EXECUTIVE BRANCH

AMENDMENT TO THE CODE OF ETHICS FOR EXECUTIVE