

should coordinate its work to set forth a legislative initiative for job growth in our State.

The House of Delegates must continue its careful oversight of housing, job training and education programs to assess whether the dollars we are presently spending are well coordinated and reaching the right people.

Tax policy can be a powerful tool and any adjustments we make during this recession should be carefully analyzed. We must examine unemployment compensation in greater depth than we have had time for during this week. Obviously, contingency plans must be made for possible future reversals in federal policy. We must also proceed cautiously in making any structural changes in government in order to avoid further splintering our resources.

As legislators, we have a responsibility to develop an agenda for '83 to help business create more jobs and assist those who cannot find jobs. Our tourism industry should not be neglected, nor should our Port be anything but the best. We must review our rule making authority and remove unnecessary barriers to business. The adequacy of our transportation system is important, both to attract business and enable people to get to work. Finally, our schools must teach skills that are marketable and retrain those whose skills are no longer needed. We must look for every possible way to help the unemployed become independent and productive.

I will ask the committee chairmen and their staff to meet regularly to coordinate this effort. Even in the most optimistic crystal balls, there is no doubt that this crisis will not disappear quickly or easily. There are many challenges facing this nation and this State and it is incumbent upon us to search for creative solutions to meet these challenges.

The ability to work is fundamental to the well-being of our people. We need the help of labor and business and all of our best efforts to get beneath the tip of the iceberg and find employment opportunities for our people.

Let us use this time that remains in our legislative term to develop such a program.

Read and ordered journalized.

MESSAGE TO THE SENATE

By the Majority Leader:
Ladies and Gentlemen of the Senate: