

of numerous persons and businesses for rigging bids in State construction and asbestos abatement contracts. It also thwarted a price-fixing agreement among Baltimore area pharmacies to raise prescription costs for HMO subscribers. With the Attorney General's Office, Mr. Curran established an in-house continuing education program; encouraged assistant attorneys general to handle *pro bono* cases; and has recovered millions of dollars for the State in various cases, including those involving the insurance and cable industries.

Attorney General Curran began his career in public service in 1958, elected to the House of Delegates as a law student. In 1962, he was elected to the State Senate. During this time, despite angry demonstrators picketing his home, he advocated open housing laws for Maryland. In 1967, Mr. Curran became chair of the Judicial Proceedings Committee and held that position for sixteen years.

In the General Assembly, Mr. Curran sponsored or fought for significant bills, including those creating the Court of Special Appeals and the District Court system. He consistently supported bills to improve the courts and the corrections system, toughen drunk-driving laws, guarantee equal rights, and require handgun permits. He also worked to modernize Maryland's divorce and alimony laws, reform adoption and guardianship, and protect victims of domestic violence.

Mr. Curran is married to the former Barbara Marie Atkins. They are the parents of five children, Mary Carole, Alice, Catherine, J. Joseph III (Max), and William (deceased). The Currans reside in the Homeland section of Baltimore.



**JOHN T. WILLIS**  
*Secretary of State*  
*(Democrat)*

The Governor appointed John T. Willis to be Secretary of State of Maryland on January 18, 1995. Mr. Willis was confirmed unanimously by the State Senate on February 3, 1995, and confirmed for a second four-year term on February 12, 1999.

Born in Baltimore, Maryland, November 1, 1946, Mr. Willis attended Carroll County public schools, graduating from Westminster High School in 1964. Mr. Willis graduated cum laude from Bucknell University with a B.A. in economics in 1968. He received his J.D. in 1971 from Harvard Law School with an emphasis on constitutional law.

In the United States Army, Mr. Willis served in the Judge Advocate General Corps from 1968 to 1971 at Fort Devens, Massachusetts, and Fort Meade, Maryland. In the U.S. Army Judiciary, he was Clerk to the Army Court of Military Review and served with the Defense Appellate Division, 1971-74. Mr. Willis completed his tour of duty as the Legal Assistance Officer at Aberdeen Proving Ground, 1974-75. As an attorney, he engaged in private general practice in Westminster, Maryland, and in Baltimore City from 1975 to 1990 with extensive experience in small business, real estate, zoning and land-use law. He was Chief of Staff to the County Executive of Prince George's County from 1990 to 1994.