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Schaefer hurtles into his final session at full speed

Baker to battle gun control plan

By Frank Langfitt
Staff Writer

Despite a challenge from the governor yesterday and growing public support for major gun control legislation, one man is poised to prevent the Maryland General Assembly from passing such laws this year.

Sen. Walter M. Baker, who chairs a committee that has killed many of the governor's gun control measures in the past, predicted defeat for most of this year's proposals once again.

He also said he will work to keep anyone from circumventing his committee.

"Banning guns has nothing to do with crime," said Mr. Baker, referring to Gov. William Donald



MARK BUGNASKI/STAFF PHOTO

Governor Schaefer is greeted in the House before his speech.

Schaefer's proposal yesterday to ban the sale of 18 types of semiautomatic pistols. "The very moment we let them get their foot in the door, they [will] want to push the

door open all the way and absolutely ban everything."

Mr. Baker, who chairs the Sen-

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Guns, cigarettes, welfare top issues

By Marina Sarris
and Robert Timberg
Staff Writers

Refusing to go quietly, Gov. William Donald Schaefer plunged into his last legislative session yesterday by declaring war on guns and cigarettes while proposing to limit welfare for people who won't work or who keep having children.

Saying it was not his style to coast out of office, the governor outlined an ambitious legislative agenda in his eighth and final State of the State address to the Maryland General Assembly.

He renewed his call for a ban on the sale of assault pistols while proposing measures that would nearly triple the number of guns that require a seven-day waiting period before purchase, severely limit the number of guns people could buy each month and outlaw high-capac-

ity ammunition magazines.

He took on the powerful tobacco lobby with proposals to attack smoking among youths and to make Maryland the second-highest taxer of cigarettes in the nation.

"People said to me this year, 'Don't put in a lot of bills. Take it easy,'" Mr. Schaefer said. "I don't believe we should take it easy. That's not what we were sent here for."

With a more receptive mood nationally and at home, Mr. Schaefer plans to submit the most sweeping package of gun control bills of his gubernatorial career.

One measure would dramatically increase the number of guns subject to the seven-day waiting period,

See ADDRESS, 15A

Excerpts from speech.

HIGHLIGHTS

■ **Gun control:** Ban sale of 18 types of assault pistols. Limit purchases of many guns to one per month per person.

■ **Anti-smoking measures:** New tax on cigarettes of 25 cents a pack.

■ **Welfare reform:** Pilot program requiring recipients to seek work and, if they found none, to perform community service. Once on welfare, no extra benefits for additional children.

■ **AIDS prevention:** Allow pilot needle-exchange program for some Baltimore drug addicts. Names of people infected with virus would have to be reported to state health department.

■ **Death penalty reform:** Change state's method of execution to lethal injection.

14A

STATE OF THE STATE

ADDRESS: Governor takes the offensive

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from 24 to between 64 and 70, Schaefer aides said.

Another, modeled on a 1993 Virginia law, would limit the number of regulated firearms a person could buy to one a month. "This does not include shotguns or rifles and won't hurt hunters," the governor said.

Other measures would ban the sale of 18 types of military-style semiautomatic assault pistols and increase penalties for illegal gun sales.

For three years, a Senate committee has killed Mr. Schaefer's bills to ban the sale of assault weapons, but the governor told legislators, all of whom are up for re-election, that the mood of Maryland voters is shifting.

"An overwhelming number of Marylanders want tougher gun laws. All you have to do is read your paper," he said, an apparent reference to a recent *Washington Post* poll. The newspaper found that half of the Maryland residents polled in December said they supported banning the sale of all handguns and that two-thirds favored banning the sale of semiautomatic weapons.

To hammer home the point, the governor said he would have a flag outside the State House lowered to half-staff each day there is a gun-related killing in Maryland during the legislative session.

His proposals received a boost yesterday when Senate President Thomas V. Mike Miller Jr., D-Prince George's, said the full Senate would get the chance to vote on gun control, though the chairman of the Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee chairman was suggesting otherwise.

Legislators who favor gun control said they were more optimistic than before that some significant measure would pass this year.

"I think [Mr. Schaefer] hit the No. 1 issue on the head: crime," said Del. Peter Franchot, a Montgomery County Democrat. Last year, he said, people were more worried about jobs, but "now they're saying, 'I don't want to be robbed or shot.'"

Unwilling to relinquish a stage he has commanded for seven years, Mr. Schaefer rejected a lame-duck label while warning legislators that their re-election hopes might depend on their performance this session.

"So when you call me a lame duck, look at your own wing," he said.

The governor began his address with a list of joint administration-legislative accomplishments in previous years, imparting a trace of nostalgia and melancholy to the occasion.

Then, he abruptly switched gears, declaring, "Of course, our work is not finished."

With that, he outlined a broad, no-nonsense program that afterward won cheers from some and boos from others, but in no way resembled a swan song.

In addition to his attack on guns, Mr. Schaefer proposed a 25-cent-a-pack increase in the excise tax on cigarettes "to discourage smoking and generate money that will be used, in part, to help children."

The additional tax revenue — \$70 million to be exact — would be used to pay for programs that would be difficult for lawmakers to reject. "He's picked the most popular programs," said Del. Timothy F. Maloney, D-Prince George's County.

The biggest portion, \$25 million, would help financially strapped local governments pay for required health, education and public safety pro-



MARK BUGNASKI/STAFF PHOTO

Governor Schaefer and Senate President Thomas V. Mike Miller scan the audience as the governor prepares to deliver his address.

grams. An additional \$24 million would be used to help public schools in poverty stricken areas, expand pre-kindergarten programs and help students who speak other languages to learn English.

The biggest winner would be Baltimore, which would receive \$8.6 million, followed by Montgomery County, with almost \$8.5 million. Anne Arundel, Baltimore, Harford and Howard counties would receive more than \$1 million each.

Most of the rest of the money would go for services for developmentally disabled Marylanders, a group that is coming to depend more and more on the state's resources.

The cigarette tax increase, to 61 cents a pack from 36 cents, would give the state the nation's second-highest cigarette tax. Washington, D.C., has a 65-cent tax.

Although a tax on tobacco has more appeal than virtually any other tax, lawmakers are clearly reluctant to raise taxes in an election year. But Mr. Schaefer's clever choice of groups to benefit from the tax has some legislators rethinking the issue.

"It's much more alive today than it was yesterday," said Sen. Laurence Levitan, chairman of the powerful Budget and Taxation Committee. "If you had to find a way to set it up to gain support for a tax increase, the governor did all the right things."

Anti-smoking forces applauded the tax, saying it would encourage smokers to quit and thereby improve public health.

The tobacco industry's man in Annapolis, lobbyist Bruce C. Bereano, lashed out at the tax as other assault on "Joe Six-Pack," a stereotypical working man who enjoys beer and cigarettes.

In a third major initiative, Mr. Schaefer surprised many lawmakers by proposing a pilot program of dramatic welfare reforms that would put Maryland in the forefront of the national debate.

Under his proposal, which would be implemented in Baltimore and in two counties, Anne Arundel and Prince George's, mothers would not receive extra benefits for any children they conceived while receiving welfare. That idea has angered advocates for the poor, who say it would punish only children. And Mr. Schaefer has expressed discomfort with the idea in the past.

Another of Mr. Schaefer's proposals would require recipients to find jobs or perform community service after 18 months on welfare. The benefits of those who refused would be reduced.

Less than a half-dozen states have time limits for welfare recipients and restrict benefits for people who have children while on welfare.

HEAR SPEECH

If you would like to hear excerpts of Gov. William Donald Schaefer's State of the State address, call Sundial, The Sun's telephone information service, at (410) 783-1800. Call 268-7736 in Anne Arundel County, 836-5028 in Harford County and 848-0338 in Carroll County. Using a touch-tone phone, punch in the four-digit code 6105 after you hear the greeting.

SCHAEFER'S PLANS

To receive, by fax, a free copy of Gov. William Donald Schaefer's brochure of legislative proposals for 1994, dial Sunfax at (410) 332-6123. After you hear the greeting, enter information number 5151.

STATE OF THE STATE

EXCERPTS FROM GOVERNOR'S ADDRESS

As we prepared our legislative package, we looked hard at what already has been accomplished and what we still have to do. There are bills in this package that will strengthen areas where we have already made progress.

There are bills that will improve the way we care for the citizens who need our help the most: the children, the sick, the elderly and those who fear for their safety.

There are a couple of bills that you've seen before, because I hear that people want progress on AIDS and gun control.

If the causes are good, it's worth the fight.

The other night, there was a young lady, and she said this: "We hope that politicians will make the right decision, not only the popular ones," and she is so right.

People said to me this year, "Don't put in a lot of bills. Take it easy election year."

I would have done a disservice to you. But they did say that I shouldn't do a lot of things because this is my last year.

Now, this is the last year of your term, and I want you to think about this.

Lame ducks

We are all in somewhat the same situation. In fact, all of us are really lame ducks. I won't be back. Many — some of you may not be back. And what we do may be the difference between what — whether you come back or you don't.

So, when you call me a lame duck, look at your own wing.

I don't believe we should take it easy. That's not what we were sent here for. That's not what we're paid for. That's not my style. And that hasn't been your style.

You can be sure that the voters will remember what we accomplished this year. The voters will remember the good bills that we passed, but they'll also remember the good bills that were killed.

Next week we submit the budget. It's a reasonable one that allows for modest growth. Most of the increases go to mandated programs in health, public safety, education, as well as local aid.

And I had a mandate of my own. Because state employees have so long gone without a pay increase, I'm proposing a 3 percent increase, plus increments. And you have also said that's the thing to do.

My philosophy, incidentally, is not to terminate employees who perform years of dedicated service just so we can say we've downsized government.

In working on legislation and the budget, it's easy to identify the top priority, and that's public safety.

The majority of new positions in the budget are for public safety.

Remember, you can't open a new prison without prison guards and personnel. And you can't take care of the multitude of juvenile delinquents that are coming into the system, unless you have trained personnel.

The capital budget has money for prison facilities in Baltimore, Allegany County and more than 500 local jail beds. We have high murder rates in our cities.

And I hear from people all over Maryland who want us to do more this year to make them feel safer and be safer.

Last week, as you know, I met with the mayor of Baltimore and the mayor of Washington, D.C., to talk about our mutual problems of crime.

Bishop Robinson [the secretary of public safety and correctional services], Colonel [Larry W.] Tolliver [the state police superintendent], all the chiefs of police were there, and the mayors, and we signed one pact on gun-running.

Police cooperation

But we know that you just can't stand in isolation. And I expect cooperation between state and local police — and push efforts like our East Coast gun-trafficking program — because cities, and states, and counties can work together. And, as you well know, crime knows no boundaries.

We got the local police chiefs working together to share information on car thefts, and we've seen a 20 percent decline in auto thefts, so cooperation does work.

We also need to work on prevention, helping young people before they commit crimes. We want to reduce the small percentage of the population committing most of the crimes.

Just throwing money at crime will not work. A well thought out federal crime bill is essential.

We need a combination of prevention, properly trained police officers, tough penalties and gun laws.

We need to give law enforcement officers the tools to fight crime.

So, this year I'm proposing to set up a DNA data bank that initially will help solve sex offenses and could be expanded to help solve other violent crimes.

We need to limit, in a reasonable way, the sale of certain types of guns. You have to think hard about that. We must do that.

An overwhelming number of Marylanders want tougher gun laws. All you've got to do is read your paper. Talk to people.

Gun legislation cannot be bottled up in a committee. It must be brought to the floor, so that everyone has an opportunity to be heard on gun legislation.

[Applause.] States around us are tightening up gun laws, which results in sending more people to Maryland to buy guns.

Connecticut and New Jersey have banned assault weapons, and Virginia is restricting gun purchases.

Now, you know I'm a big believer in exports, but Maryland should not end up being the top exporter of guns on the East Coast.

So, I'm again proposing, as I've done just about every year, a ban on assault pistols, because there is no legitimate use for these weapons on the street.

This is the right thing to do. And it is clear that citizens want us to do that.

Now, you might say, "Well, that's not going to end crime," and I know that. But it's going to help.

I'm also proposing a ban on magazines with more than 20 rounds and updating of the list of semiautomatic rifles subject to a seven-day waiting period.

I wish to clarify the statutes to make mandatory sentences apply to the possession

of firearms during drug trafficking.

I'm going to ask you to adopt legislation — similar to the Virginia new law — to limit the purchase of all regulated firearms to one a month.

This does not include shotguns or rifles and won't hurt the hunters.

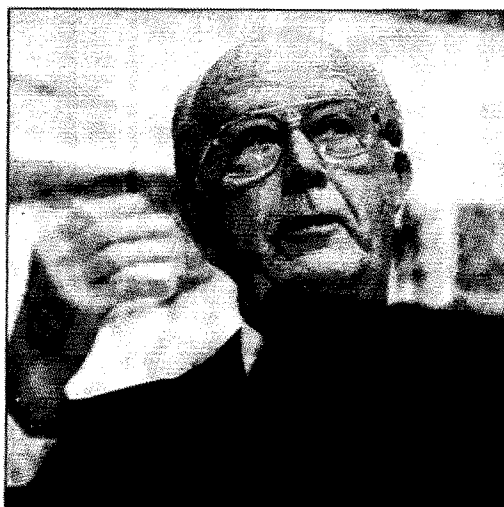
So, if you want something to take home to the voters, vote for these gun control bills and then tell your voters you voted for safety.

I have some other safety proposals to make, on auto theft, youth alcohol abuse, and insurance fraud. But, because we should do more to protect victims, I'm going to push for a constitutional amendment to give crime victims rights in criminal proceedings.

I will ask for the suspension of driver licenses for any youth convicted of drunk driving, and the suspension to remain in effect until at least the age of 21.

Finally, we need to reform the death penalty appeals process.

Now, this is a tough subject. A lot of people have strong feelings on both sides.



Maryland has a death penalty that, as punishment for serious crimes, but no one has been executed since 1961 because of the very long and complicated appeals process.

I had a commission to study the death penalty appeals and am proposing bills they recommend to streamline the process.

Because we do expect an execution this summer, I'm also proposing a bill to change the method of execution from the gas chamber to lethal injection.

Outside, there is a flagpole on Lawyer's Mall. For the remaining 88 days of the session, we'll lower the flag half-staff every day there's a murder in Maryland involving a gun.

Every day, when you come to work, take a look at that flag and see what it represents: 450 people killed by guns on the streets of Washington; 323, city of Baltimore.

Preventing smoking

Prevention. Smoking. I spend a lot of my time talking about prevention because I know it's right. Instead of correcting problems after

they happen — crime, health, and social problems — we should do everything we can to prevent them.

Every day, more people are taking up smoking. That's — while I know that adults are trying very hard to quit, are sorry they ever starting smoking.

You know, the statistics are on my side. Five thousand people develop new cancer every year because of smoking, and smoking kills 7,600 Marylanders prematurely.

Do you know the average age when a person starts to smoke? Thirteen.

And we can see the millions of dollars that the cigarette industry spends, with characters like Joe Camel saying, "It's cool to smoke," and using all sorts of little tricks to get them to smoke. It's not cool; it's cruel.

Smoking is a public health problem. It starts with the young people and continues with adults, and we have to face that.

We are moving ahead with regulations to ban smoking in all workplaces, and we need to work with young people.

So, I'm proposing larger fines for selling cigarettes to minors; restricting access to vending machines; and clarifying the law to give cities and counties power to enact stronger local laws, if they want to.

Money to help children

To discourage smoking and generate money that will be used, in part, to help children, I am proposing a 25-cent increase in the cigarette tax.

It will raise \$70 million in next year's budget. I'm going to use the money raised from a bad product to do good.

And here's how we are going to spend the money. With the money raised in the cigarette tax, \$25 million will go to what I call Mandated Relief Program, for local government to spend, as they want, to pay for mandated programs in health, education and public safety.

I have pledged, and will continue to pledge, no new mandates, without funding, do away with unnecessary mandates, but there will still be local mandates that they must fund. And we've heard from local governments and they need help.

The next \$24 million will be spent on schools, implementing, in part, the Task Force on School Funding recommendations, for poverty grants, incentive grants, grants for students with limited English, and expanding the pre-kindergarten program to help children prepare for school.

Another \$13 million will fund the expansion of the developmentally disabled program that you approved last year, providing community services for the disabled.

The fourth and the final \$7 million will finance a new school for disruptive students, expands scholarship opportunities and help the elderly, homeless and poor.

That's new money for all these good things. They are tied to one thing that's in the budget with an increase in the cigarette tax.

We have other health issues facing us here, so I'm proposing legislation to treat AIDS as a communicable disease, so we can fight this virus. It's a communicable disease. Don't fool yourselves. It's the same as [tuberculosis], and I just can't understand how we can't get that passed, and we'll push hard on that. We need to know more information and education if we're going to spend the money, and this

problem, as many would have us believe, will just disappear.

Now, we worked with the city of Baltimore on a pilot needle-exchange project under strict regulations. Now, you know I've opposed this in the past, but I learned something in my time in public office. If you're always against something, and if you're opposed to change, you never get any place. So I decided I'm going to work on this under strict regulations.

You know, some people get elected on a platform of opposing everything, and you know, it's so easy to oppose. All you've got to do is say, "I oppose." But when you ask them for some direction and for some solutions, they're just not there. And so if you were put on the spot of saying, "As you oppose, give us a solution," you'd have more, well, feelings, for those who just automatically oppose everything that's done.

Some people in Baltimore are concerned about the needle-exchange program, while citizens on the Eastern Shore and Southern Maryland need help with emergency service. I've instructed Colonel Tolliver and Don DeVries, chairman of the EMS [Emergency Medical Services] Board, who will report back to me in two weeks about how we can provide two helicopters for the Shore and Southern Maryland.

Year-round schooling

So much of what we do in state government is devoted to helping our youngest children. So, to help children better retain what they learn, I'm asking you to let the school system try year-round schedules.

Nancy Grasmick [the state superintendent of schools] is moving ahead with plans to take over low-performing schools to give every child a chance for a good education. It is not right to penalize the children by allowing schools to operate at a low performance level, and I commend Nancy for the courage enough to say we're going to do that.

We're also proposing legislation to streamline the adoption process to help people who want to give a child a better life, welfare.

I'm also asking for expanded authority to collect child support from parents who won't take responsibility for their children. We made some gains on child support last year, but there's still too much money not being collected.

Family Court — Chief Judge [Robert C.] Murphy [Maryland Court of Appeals chief judge] studied the idea of Family Court after I pushed it last year, along with Ken Montague [delegate from Baltimore]. One of his recommendations is to create a separate division within the Circuit Court devoted to family matters. What I wanted to do was accomplished. And he suggested we try it in five of the largest counties, and I will support him on the Family Court within the existing Circuit Court.

Maryland has been a leader in so many things. The health bill you passed last year put us so far ahead of the federal government,

and helped control costs. Guys, you can pat yourselves on the back. What a remarkable thing was done. It was just marvelous that it was done.

[Applause.]

We want to do the same thing in our Medicaid program, better managing the patients who cost the state the most. And we'll have money in the budget to do that. We need to constantly re-evaluate entitlement programs and how we administer them.

Welfare reform

This year Congress will look at welfare reform. We can make positive changes in Maryland's program this year. We have a plan that emphasizes responsibility and requires recipients to look for work while receiving benefits. After 12 or 18 months, recipients who can't find a job will have to perform community service, or work for an employer that would participate in a state incentive program. So I'm proposing a pilot program for Baltimore City, Anne Arundel County, Prince George's County, where two-thirds of the total welfare population exists.

As we look ahead, we have reason to be optimistic. If you'll remember, I was a strong critic of Dr. [Mahlon] Straszheim [the governor's chief economic adviser], and now I listen to him, and he's optimistic, not overly so, but he's optimistic. The economy is improving, employment is increasing, and though we must keep stimulating new jobs through international trade and manufacturing and tourism.

Last year you set up the Maryland Tourism Development Board to find ways to increase promotion so that we can compete with other states that outspend us two, three, four times over.

We're also encouraging plans for a Montgomery County Convention Center. We have money in the capital budget for renovation of the Ocean City Convention Center.

The many regions that make up Maryland will be diverse, but people are the common thread. Talk to Marylanders and they'll tell you what they want. It's so simple. They want to be safe. They want to be safe on the streets. They want to be safe in their homes. They want good health, free from disease and the threat of AIDS. They want a job, to provide for their families. They want a home to end homelessness. And they want better opportunities for their children. Very simple, but so important.

That's it. I just want to end with this: Believe it or not, and I know it's — like someone said, when you say that, they don't know whether they're going to believe you or not — I look forward to working with you in this last year. We can be so good. We can do so much. We can go out of here with the people just shouting your praises. I won't be here next year. Many of you will. Some won't. But just remember what I started with. If we care about people, and if we think how each one of us are important, and not just say, you know, "I'm going to be against that because I don't like him, or I don't like her." Don't worry about that.

What's best for the people that put you here? What's best for the kids? What's best for kids that you may be able to stop from growing into the crime situation?

We can do it. We've got great leadership. We've got great people.

Thank you very much.

[Applause.]

GUNS: Baker is poised to thwart Schaefer plan

From Page A1

ate Judicial Proceedings Committee, said he didn't put much stock in recent national polls in which more than 70 percent of respondents said they favored banning semiautomatic pistols.

"I don't believe in polls," the conservative Cecil County Democrat said.

Mr. Baker, however, stopped short of saying that he would work to kill the governor's gun package. Instead, he said he would listen to the testimony and noted that his is only one of the 11 votes on the committee.

"I'm always willing to look at anything somebody brings in," he said.

By reaffirming his stance, though, Mr. Baker seemed headed on a collision course with the man who appointed him committee chairman, Senate President Thomas V. Mike Miller Jr. Mr. Miller said yesterday that he will work with the committee to bring gun control legislation for a vote by the full Senate.

All 47 senators "should have the opportunity to vote so that, before the public goes to the voting booths, they'll know how their representatives stand on this important issue," said Mr. Miller, a Prince George's County Democrat.

The Senate president has proposed using a bait-and-switch on Mr. Baker's committee, traditionally the gateway for gun legislation in the Senate. He said he will try to persuade committee members to pass a modest gun bill that could then be amended on the floor of the Senate to include at least some portions of the governor's package.

Mr. Baker said earlier this week that he would oppose any effort to circumvent his committee — even one by his boss.

"I'm not going to put any vehicles out there on the Senate floor that will enable gun people to amend and come up with what I consider to be the wrong kind of laws," he said.

Apprised of his committee chairman's position, Mr. Miller would only say that Mr. Baker "is a reasonable man and reasonable men can be reasoned with."

In his State of the State speech yesterday, Governor Schaefer proposed a five-point gun control plan and specifically took aim at Mr. Baker.

"An overwhelming number of

Marylanders want tougher gun laws," Mr. Schaefer told lawmakers. "Gun legislation can't be bottled up in a committee."

The remark led to the first applause from legislators during the speech in the State House in Annapolis. The governor's proposals include banning high-capacity ammunition magazines that hold more than 20 bullets and adding at least 40 assault weapons to a list of those subject to a seven-day waiting period.

Mr. Baker said that he opposes these measures as he did last year. What seems to have changed, however, is public opinion in both Maryland and the rest of the United States. Increases in gun-related homicides from the nation's inner cities to the heartland have made gun control a top concern for many. Semiautomatic handguns make news all the time. In December, a man used one to kill five and injure 18 others on a Long Island commuter train.

Last fall, Congress passed the Brady Bill, requiring a five-day waiting period and a background check for handgun buyers. A Washington Post poll published last Sunday found that two-thirds of Marylanders favor banning the sale of semiautomatic weapons.

None of this seems to have swayed Mr. Baker. He said that he doesn't believe gun bans will stop crime; he would vote for them if he thought they would. Criminals, he says, will simply buy them on the black market. Despite his strong views, he hopes gun control advocates won't think him insensitive.

"I can see where they're coming from," he said. "They see guns used for illegal purposes. Us country folks, we see guns used for legal purposes."

Mr. Baker's traces his attitude toward guns to his upbringing in rural Cecil County on the northern end of the Chesapeake Bay. His father was a farmer and he started hunting for food when he was 10 years old.

As the 1994 legislative session opened this week, Mr. Baker has seemed more isolated and he has come under increasing pressure to soften his stand. While voting on a routine matter during the session's opening day, Mr. Baker found himself casting the only vote against.

"This is on gun control, right?" joked Mr. Miller from the dais of the Senate chamber.

THE GOVERNOR'S PROPOSALS

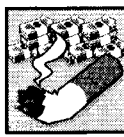
Gov. William Donald Schaefer outlined his legislative agenda for this year — his final year as governor — during yesterday's State of the State address. Here are highlights of what he is proposing:

Gun control



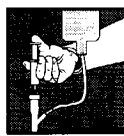
Limit purchases of many firearms to one per month per person, similar to Virginia law. A ban on the sale or transfer of 18 types of military-style assault pistols and of ammunition magazines holding more than 20 rounds. Increase penalties for the illegal sale or transfer of regulated firearms.

Cigarettes



A 25-cent increase in the cigarette tax, to 61 cents per pack, giving the state the second highest tax in the country. Tax would raise an estimated \$70 million to be used for a variety of popular programs not otherwise funded in the governor's budget. Increased fines for selling cigarettes to minors. Permit local jurisdictions to impose tougher measures.

Death penalty



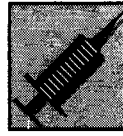
Change method of execution from gas chamber to lethal injection. Streamline the appeals process by reducing the length of time for filing post-conviction petitions and permitting condemned individuals to waive the period for post-conviction review.

Welfare reform



A pilot program for Baltimore City, Anne Arundel and Prince George's counties would require recipients to look for work and participate in job training programs. Those who can't find a job after 18 months would have to perform community service or other work. Once on welfare, no extra benefits for additional children. Federal waivers required before program could be implemented.

Needle exchange/AIDS prevention



Baltimore City would be permitted to undertake a needle exchange program for intravenous drug users. HIV infection would be added to the list of reportable communicable conditions, meaning the names of people with the AIDS virus would be reported to the state health department.

Income tax



As an economic development measure, the governor will allow the 6 percent tax bracket for individuals making \$100,000 or more taxable income, or couples making \$150,000 or more taxable income, to lapse as scheduled at the end of the year.

Alcohol/drunken driving



Suspend the licenses of drivers under 21 who commit alcohol-related driving offenses. Broaden the type of alcohol-related offenses triggering license suspension.

DNA data bank

Establish a DNA data base to help solve sex offense cases. DNA samples to be taken from convicted sex offenders as part of sentencing or as a condition of release from supervision.

Year-round schools



Amend state law to allow year-round schools. Five incentive grants of \$100,000 each would be given to selected school systems wishing to undertake pilot year-round school programs.