

66 of 153 DOCUMENTS

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HEADLINE: Lt. Gov. Curran Campaigns For Md. Attorney General

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BODY:

Maryland Lt. Gov. J. Joseph Curran Jr., 53, a former state Senate leader who has served in elected office for 27 years -- 22 of them in the Senate -- launched his campaign yesterday for state attorney general.

Curran, a northeast Baltimore Democrat who became Gov. Harry Hughes' lieutenant governor in 1984, held one of two news conferences at the University of Baltimore Law Center, where Curran was a law student when he made his first bid for public office, winning a seat in the House of Delegates in 1958. The second conference was in Rockville.

Maryland Attorney General Stephen H. Sachs is seeking the Democratic nomination for governor. To make the run for attorney general, which pays the same \$62,500 that Curran now earns as lieutenant governor, Curran first must win the Democratic primary in September 1986.

At least three other Democrats -- Deputy Attorney General Eleanor M. Carey, former U.S. attorney Russell T. Baker Jr. and former attorney general Francis B. Burch, have announced or expressed interest in running for the post.