



**For Immediate Release**

Contact: Rick Abbruzzese  
(410) 814-4206

## O'Malley Gives Major Education Address

### *O'Malley Releases Six-Point Plan to Support Maryland Teachers*

**OCEAN CITY, MD (October 22, 2005)** – Speaking to approximately 800 teachers at the Maryland State Teachers Association's annual delegate assembly, Martin O'Malley detailed his six-point plan to strengthen teacher retention and teacher recruitment. The remarks were well received, and O'Malley concluded to a standing ovation from the assembly.

"I see a stronger Maryland where educators are paid their true value to our society – and given the respect they deserve as the shapers of our future – because any retention or recruiting plan isn't worth the paper it's written on unless we deliver on this basic promise," O'Malley said.

Within the speech, O'Malley offered many specific proposals, including:

- Stemming the exodus of experienced teachers from Maryland by improving teacher pension pay so that Maryland no longer has the lowest pension rate in the nation;
- Improving working conditions for teachers with smaller classrooms and improved supplies, bought by taking advantage of the state's AAA bond rating;
- Fulfilling our somber commitment to taxpayers and to our children by making sure that every dollar of education spending intended for the classroom actually makes it there;
- Encouraging students to study toward education degrees *before* they reach college, aggressively recruiting graduates from Maryland's excellent teacher preparation programs;
- Improving loan repayment programs for new teachers who agree to teach at Maryland's public schools; and

- Focusing on first and second year teachers by creating the best teacher mentoring program in the country, and by striving to place new teachers in areas of their expertise.

O'Malley encouraged teachers to engage in his campaign, and offered a positive vision of how a stronger Maryland can do better under new leadership.

Attached to this press release are O'Malley's remarks before the Maryland State Teacher's Association assembly, as well as his detailed plan to improve teacher retention and recruitment. These documents are also available on the campaign website, <http://www.martinomalley.com>.

###

Friends of Martin O'Malley – 2400 Boston Street, Suite 203 – Baltimore, MD 21224 – 410-814-4206 – fax: 410-814-4219

Authority: Friends of Martin O'Malley, Martin F. Cadogan, Treasurer