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HEADLINE: Md. Attorney General to Run Again

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BODY:

Maryland Attorney General J. Joseph Curran Jr., politically wary because of his uneasy relationship with Gov. William Donald Schaefer, will launch his reelection campaign Sept. 7, according to a published report.

The Democratic primary is more than a year away, but Curran's problems with fellow Democrat Schaefer make him anxious to get started, the Baltimore Sun reported yesterday. "I don't want to go to sleep and wake up next March or April and find a serious contender out there," he said.

The winner of a close, three-candidate race in 1986, Curran has been regarded by critics and by past supporters as a far more independent and consumer-minded attorney general than they expected.

Schaefer reportedly has also put out feelers to Democrats who might oppose Curran in the party primary, notably James Lighthizer, the Anne Arundel County executive, who has served in that job for eight years and cannot serve another term, the newspaper said. Lighthizer said last week that he isn't interested.

"I want to lay the groundwork and get some money together," Curran said, adding that he hopes to raise \$ 300,000 or more.