

## REPORT.

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The undersigned of the committee of ways and means, submit the following report upon the bill, to reduce the direct tax which originated in and passed the Senate, and was by this House referred to said committee for its consideration.

The undersigned think that the bill ought to pass, and they respectfully give the following reasons therefor.

According to the Comptroller's report it is estimated, that there will be received into the treasury during the present year, the sum of \$1,323,187.50. This estimate is based upon the old assessment assuming \$200,000,000, at the basis. The probable expenditures are also estimated in that report at \$961,958,59, which deducted from the above estimated receipts will leave a surplus in the Treasury of \$361,228.91. In the estimate of receipts into the treasury the Comptroller credits the direct tax with \$500,000. From all the information that the undersigned have been able to obtain, they feel warranted in believing that the new assessment will increase the amount of assessable property in the State to \$240,000,000, which, at the rate of 1-8 of one per cent, or twelve and a half cents in the hundred dollars, will yield the sum of \$300,000. There would then of course be \$200,000, less received for direct taxes than is estimated by the Comptroller. If then this amount of \$200,000, be deducted from the \$361,228.91, the difference between receipts and expenditures as above, show that a balance of \$161,228.91 will be left as surplus in the Treasury which will be the nett revenue in the treasury after meeting all liabilities, including the interest on the Sinking Fund. The interest on the Sinking Fund is about \$145,000. This fund being so much of the debt paid off and redeemed, the interest accruing thereon must be considered in the light of surplus, as it is not required to pay any actual debt that the State owes; which interest, \$145,000, added to the above nett balance of \$161,228.91, will make the sum of \$306,228.91. Add to this the sum of \$100,000, which is obtained by assuming the