

WHEREAS, It is important that said claims shall be energetically prosecuted to a settlement; therefore,

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland,* That the Governor be and he is hereby authorized and directed to appoint some suitable person or persons to act as the agent or agents of the State of Maryland in the prosecution of all its claims against the government of the United States, existing prior to the year eighteen hundred and ninety-eight, and by written agreement to fix the terms of such employment, the rate of compensation to be paid the said agent or agents for all their services, work and expenses in connection with such agency; provided, said agent or agents will accept therefor a contingency of such portion of the moneys actually collected from the government of the United States and paid by it into the Treasury of Maryland, as may be agreed upon with the Governor, not exceeding thirty per cent. thereof, the same to be a full compensation for work, services and expenses of all and every kind whatsoever, and no other compensation shall be received from the State therefor.

Governor shall appoint agent or agents.

Compensation

SEC. 2. *And be it enacted,* That in case the said agent or agents or their successors for any reason discontinue or are unable to go on with the work of such agency, then the Governor shall from time to time, and as often as may be necessary, appoint another or other agent or agents, so that such agency may be kept alive, and fix by agreement in writing the terms of such employment, with due consideration for the equities of the preceding agent or agents not exceeding in the aggregate for all agents appointed hereunder the rate of compensation hereinbefore fixed for the original appointment, and should any controversy arise between appointees hereunder as to the division of the compensation to which they or either may be entitled the decision and award of the Governor with reference thereto shall be final.

Shall appoint other agents in case of vacancy.

SEC. 3. *And be it enacted,* That when the government of the United States has paid any sum or sums into the Treasury of this State in settlement, or on account of the claim or claims hereinbefore mentioned, the Comptroller, upon the order of the Governor, shall draw his warrant upon the Treasurer in favor of the agent or agents aforesaid, or their successors, or the representatives of either of them for such sum or sums as the Governor may direct, not exceeding in the aggregate the rate hereinbefore fixed.

When agents shall be paid.

SEC. 4. *And be it enacted,* That this Act shall take effect from the date of its passage.

Approved April 5, 1900.