

WHEREAS, The State tax of five and a-half cents on each hundred dollars levied under existing law for the payment of said Defense Redemption Loan at its maturity and of the interest thereon in the meantime, produces annually far more than is now needed for the purpose of paying the interest on said loan and providing the sinking fund for the payment of the principal when said bonds shall mature, and to the extent of such excess is therefore unnecessary and unjust taxation; and

WHEREAS, In order to provide the funds necessary to meet the expense to which the State will be subject for the purchase of books for the use of the children of the public schools of this State, it will be necessary to levy a special tax; and

WHEREAS, New loans have been created for the extension of the Maryland Penitentiary and the second Hospital for the Insane, to meet the interest and sinking funds for which a special tax has been provided; and

WHEREAS, A State tax of three and one-eighth cents on the hundred dollars, to be paid into the General Sinking Fund will amply provide for the payment of the interest and principal of the State debt now outstanding, and all of the demands hereinbefore enumerated can be met without any increase of the present rate of tax for State purposes; now, therefore.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland,* That section twenty-two of Article eighty-one of the Code of Public General Laws, title "Revenue and Taxes," subtitle "Rate and Items of State Tax," as the said section was amended by the act of 1894, chapter 285, entitled An act to regulate the levy for State purposes for the year eighteen hundred and ninety-four, and subsequent years, be and the same is hereby repealed and re-enacted so as to read as follows:

22. The County Commissioners of the several counties of this State, and the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore city, are directed to levy the State taxes, to be collected according to law, and to be apportioned as follows: A tax of four and one-eighth cents on each hundred dollars, to meet the interest and to create a sinking fund for the redemption of the State debt now outstanding; a tax of fifteen-sixteenths of one cent on each hundred dollars, to meet the interest and create a sinking fund for the redemption of the penitentiary loan; a tax of three-sixteenths of one cent on each hundred dollars, to meet the interest and create a sinking fund for the redemption

Levy of State taxes.