

CHAPTER 245.

AN ACT to repeal Section 37 of Article 19 of the Code of Public General Laws, title "Comptroller" as amended by Chapter 600 of the Acts of 1916, and to re-enact the same with amendments.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland*, That Section 37 of Article 19 of the Code of Public General Laws, title "Comptroller" as amended by Chapter 600 of the Acts of 1916 be, and the same is hereby repealed and re-enacted so as to read as follows:

37. The Comptroller is authorized and empowered to adjust and settle the claims of the State against all collectors, sheriffs, clerks of courts, registers of wills, and other collectors or receivers of public money and their sureties, and against corporations and individuals who may be indebted to the State in all cases where said claims accrued prior to and including the year 1916 and whether said claims be in the form of judgment or otherwise, and for the purpose of closing all such cases the Comptroller is fully authorized to compromise the same by abating the interest that has accrued, or any portion thereof, or any part of the principal debt, in his discretion, so as best to subserve the interest of the State, and shall grant discharge to said parties and their sureties upon the payment into the Treasury of the amount required by him to be paid in settlement as aforesaid; the Comptroller shall be satisfied after thorough examination into the claims that the same could not be collected by the State by legal process; and further, that the Governor and Treasurer for the time being shall each approve in writing any such abatement before the same shall be effective; and provided, further that no discharge or acquittance under this section shall be effective unless the party or parties to be benefited shall first pay the attorneys who shall have the case in hand the legal fees and fees of clerks and sheriffs.

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted*, That this Act shall take effect from June 1st, 1918.

Approved April 10th, 1918.