

of said Article, or by proceedings taken under Section 96B thereof, and the oysters belonging to such lessees, located on such areas, should be condemned by the State of Maryland for the use of the public.

AND WHEREAS proceedings under the said section have been taken by the State to condemn the leasehold interests in certain areas or lots, and judgments have been rendered in said condemnation proceedings.

AND WHEREAS the interests of the State require that the said areas or lots should not be taken by the State at the amounts of said respective judgments, and the said claims have been presented to the Comptroller of the Treasury, together with the proofs upon which the same are founded, and he has so reported.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland,* That the Board of Public Works be and it hereby is authorized and empowered to effect a compromise and settlement of any or all of the judgments rendered in the proceedings aforesaid, for such amount or amounts as in the opinion of the Board of Public Works, may be fair, reasonable and proper, and in the event of such compromise and settlement of any or all of said judgments, then the amount necessary to pay the same is hereby appropriated out of any funds in the treasury not otherwise appropriated, and the Treasurer, on warrant of the Comptroller, is authorized and directed to pay the same; provided that the whole amount of said warrant of the Comptroller shall not exceed the sum of \$75,000.00.

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted,* That if the said Board of Public Works is unable to compromise and settle any or all of said judgments for an amount which, in its opinion, is fair, reasonable and proper, as aforesaid, then and in this event the said Board is authorized and empowered, on behalf of the State, to abandon the condemnation proceedings in which such judgment or judgments which cannot be so compromised and settled were rendered, and in this event the Attorney General of the State shall cause the proper entries to be made in each of the proceedings so abandoned, for the dismissal, non-pros and discontinuance thereof, and for the release of the respective judgments rendered therein.

SEC. 3. *And be it further enacted,* That this Act shall take effect on the first day of June, 1916.

Approved April 18th, 1916.