

SEC. 4. *And be it further enacted as aforesaid,* That this Act shall be effective on and after July 1, 1920.

Approved April 9, 1920.

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CHAPTER 539.

AN ACT authorizing and directing the Governor to appoint a Commission to aid citizens of this State in the prosecution of their valid claims against the Federal Government growing out of the late war or preparation for said war; with authority to incur, with the approval of the Governor, the necessary expenses incident thereto.

WHEREAS, Many citizens of this State have valid claims against the Federal Government, arising, in one way or another, out of the prosecution of the late war or the preparation therefor, in the payment of which they are being hindered and delayed, due to the magnitude of the work instant to said war, and to the many changes that have been taking place amongst the officials charged with the investigation thereof; and,

WHEREAS, It is proper that such citizens should be aided in their efforts to secure satisfaction of all such valid claims without being forced to the expense and delay in suits in the Courts, by an investigation and report thereon made by a commission duly appointed under the authority of the State, therefore:

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland,* That the Governor of this State be and he is hereby authorized and directed to appoint a Commission of three members, citizens of this State, to serve without pay, to investigate such claims and to report to the Governor in writing their findings in reference thereto.

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted,* That said Commission shall sit in Baltimore City and at such other places as they may deem wise, to hear all those holding claims against the Federal Government growing out of the late war or preparation therefor, to take evidence with reference to said claims and to classify the same.

SEC. 3. *And be it further enacted,* That before they sit for said purpose said Commission shall give notice by publication in such manner as they may deem wise of the date and pur-