

68.

(a) Every licensed tobacco commission selling agency shall collect from the owner or seller of tobacco sold on its sales floor, a fee [at the rate of five cents per basket or thirty cents per hogshead,] *up to but not exceeding the rate of ten cents per basket or thirty SEVENTY-FIVE cents per hogshead*, as the case may be. However, at any time in less than sixty days prior to the opening of the selling season in any year the Authority, in consideration of its need for funds in the next fiscal year of other revenues likely to be available to it and to funds held on its account by the State Comptroller, may establish a lower rate for that one season than the rate specified hereinabove in this subsection; and any such lower rate shall be as deemed by the Authority a sufficient amount to keep the special fund of the Authority at an adequate level to meet the requirements of this subtitle relating to the State Tobacco Authority. Such fee shall be collected at the time any such selling agency is making its first return to the seller or owner, for the tobacco so sold. All fees so collected shall be paid over and accounted for it by the selling agency to the Authority, at the end of each selling day. The Authority or its agent may at any reasonable time inspect the books and accounts of any such selling agency to verify the correctness of any such returns.

(b) ~~[All moneys lawfully received by the Authority shall be paid over and accounted for by the Authority to the State Comptroller. They shall be held by the Comptroller in a special fund, and disbursed by his warrant upon proper certification of the Authority,] All moneys lawfully received by the Authority shall be retained by the Treasurer of the Authority in a special fund to be disbursed with the approval of the Comptroller of the State, for any purpose legal and proper under the provisions of this subtitle, subject after July 1, 1949, to the provisions of the budget provided, however, that on or after July 1, 1966, any unexpended monies shall remain in such special fund and shall not revert to the general treasury of the State at the end of the fiscal year, notwithstanding the provisions of Section 2 of Article 15A of this Code or any other provision heretofore or hereafter enacted by this legislature.~~

(c) For the fiscal year beginning July 1, 1949, the Governor shall include in the budget an itemized list of appropriations for the Authority, to be met from the special funds provided for in this subtitle and such other amounts as he may deem necessary or desirable.

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 1971.*

SEC. 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, THAT THIS ACT IS HEREBY DECLARED TO BE AN EMERGENCY MEASURE AND NECESSARY FOR THE IMMEDIATE PRESERVATION OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY AND HAVING BEEN PASSED BY A YEA AND NAY VOTE SUPPORTED BY THREE-FIFTHS OF ALL THE MEMBERS ELECTED TO EACH OF THE TWO HOUSES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY, THE SAME SHALL TAKE EFFECT FROM THE DATE OF ITS PASSAGE.

Approved May 6, 1971.