

SUBJECT TO A FINE NOT EXCEEDING \$1,000 FOR THE FIRST OFFENSE  
AND NOT EXCEEDING \$10,000 FOR EACH SUBSEQUENT OFFENSE.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 1982.

Approved June 1, 1982.

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CHAPTER 572

(Senate Bill 973)

AN ACT concerning

State Income Tax Refunds -  
Payment of Debts Owed to the State

FOR the purpose of collecting certain debts due and owing any State agency by withholding amounts from any Maryland income tax refund to which an individual, fiduciary or business entity owing the State is otherwise entitled; providing that the Department of Budget and Fiscal Planning shall by rule or regulation establish classes or categories of debts which may be referred by State agencies to the Central Collection Unit for certification to the Comptroller and withholding of amounts under this Act; providing for certain notification to persons of the withholding and of a right to request the Central Collection Unit to conduct an investigation and a hearing at certain times to determine the validity of the debt or correctness of the amount; providing certain administrative procedures for any requested investigation or hearing and a right to a judicial appeal in accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act; authorizing a consolidation of judicial appeals from a final action of the Central Collection Unit on the debt withholding and from the Maryland Tax Court on other issues relating to a claim for an income tax refund; providing that on joint or combined - separate returns the Comptroller shall only withhold the portion of the refund attributable to the individual owing the debt; providing for the collection of interest on debts withheld under this Act as otherwise authorized by law or contract; providing for nondisclosure by the Comptroller of information related to any tax return except the amount of the refund due; providing that amounts withheld against the same refund be prioritized in order of referral by State agencies to the Central Collection Unit; authorizing the Secretary of Budget and Fiscal Planning and the Comptroller to promulgate