Chapter 506

(House Bill 112)

AN ACT concerning

Interest Rate on Tax Deficiencies and Refunds - Rounding

FOR the purpose of repealing a requirement that the Comptroller, when setting the annual interest rate for tax deficiencies and refunds, round the interest rate to the nearest whole number; and generally relating to the annual interest rate on tax deficiencies and refunds.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article – Tax – General Section 13–604 Annotated Code of Maryland (2010 Replacement Volume and 2016 Supplement) (2016 Replacement Volume)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article – Tax – General

13-604.

(a) The rate of interest for each month or fraction of a month is the percent equal to one-twelfth of the annual interest rate that the Comptroller sets for the calendar year under subsection (b) of this section.

(b) On or before October 1 of each year, the Comptroller shall set the annual interest rate for the next calendar year on refunds and money owed to the State as the percent[, rounded to the nearest whole number, that is at the percent] that equals the greater of:

- (1) (i) 13% for 2016;
 - (ii) 12% for 2017;
 - (iii) 11.5% for 2018;
 - (iv) 11% for 2019;
 - (v) 10.5% for 2020;
 - (vi) 10% for 2021;

- (vii) 9.5% for 2022; and
- (viii) 9% for 2023 and each year thereafter; or

(2) 3 percentage points above the average prime rate of interest quoted by commercial banks to large businesses during the State's previous fiscal year, based on determination by the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve Bank.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 2017.

Approved by the Governor, May 4, 2017.