

HOUSE BILL 1149

Q7

6lr2977

By: **Delegates Young and Hornberger**

Introduced and read first time: February 11, 2026

Assigned to: Ways and Means

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **State Finance – Claims of the State – Settlement**

3 FOR the purpose of authorizing the Comptroller to settle a claim of the State that is in
4 arrears, regardless of how long the claim has been in arrears; and generally relating
5 to settlement of claims of the State.

6 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
7 Article – State Finance and Procurement
8 Section 6–219
9 Annotated Code of Maryland
10 (2021 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

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

13 **Article – State Finance and Procurement**

14 6–219.

15 (a) In this section, “claim” includes a claim that is reduced to judgment.

16 (b) Subject to the limitations in this section, the Comptroller may settle a claim
17 of the State that [has been] **IS** in arrears [for at least 2 years]:

18 (1) against a person who receives or collects State money;

19 (2) against the surety of that person; or

20 (3) against any other person.

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (c) Before settling a claim under this section, the Comptroller shall examine the
2 claim thoroughly and shall be satisfied that the State could not collect the claim through
3 legal process.

4 (d) To settle a claim so as best to serve the interests of the State, the Comptroller
5 may abate, wholly or partly, the principal or interest that is due to the State.

6 (e) The Comptroller shall discharge a person and the surety of the person when
7 the agreed sum is paid into the State Treasury.

8 (f) (1) If a claim is settled without payment in full, the Comptroller shall keep
9 a record that states the facts on which the settlement was based.

10 (2) The record shall be kept in the Office of the Comptroller.

11 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
12 October 1, 2026.