

HOUSE BILL 1149

Q7

6lr2977

By: **Delegates Young and Hornberger**

Introduced and read first time: February 11, 2026

Assigned to: Ways and Means

Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

House action: Adopted

Read second time: March 7, 2026

CHAPTER _____

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, under certain
5 circumstances; and generally relating 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) (1) Subject **EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN PARAGRAPH (2) OF THIS**
17 **SUBSECTION AND SUBJECT** to the limitations in this section, the Comptroller may settle
18 a claim of the State that ~~has been~~ **is** in arrears ~~for at least 2 years~~:

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

Underlining indicates amendments to bill.

~~Strike out~~ indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from the law by amendment.



1 ~~(1)~~ **(I)** against a person who receives or collects State money;

2 ~~(2)~~ **(II)** against the surety of that person; or

3 ~~(3)~~ **(III)** against any other person.

4 **(2) IF A CLAIM OF THE STATE IS IN ARREARS AGAINST A BUSINESS**
 5 **ENTITY THAT HAS PERMANENTLY CEASED OPERATIONS, THE COMPTROLLER MAY**
 6 **SETTLE A CLAIM OF THE STATE REGARDLESS OF THE PERIOD OF TIME FOR WHICH**
 7 **THE CLAIM HAS BEEN IN ARREARS.**

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

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

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

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

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

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

Approved:

Governor.

Speaker of the House of Delegates.

President of the Senate.