

## Chapter 311

**(House Bill 1149)**

AN ACT concerning

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

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

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

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

**Article – State Finance and Procurement**

6–219.

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

(b) ~~(1) Subject~~ **EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN PARAGRAPH (2) OF THIS SUBSECTION AND SUBJECT** to the limitations in this section, the Comptroller may settle a claim of the State that ~~has been~~ **IS** in arrears ~~for at least 2 years~~:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**Approved by the Governor, April 28, 2026.**