

Bill No.: _____

Requested: _____

Committee: _____

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By: **Delegate Young**

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

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

FOR the purpose of requiring the Comptroller to define claims of the State that are eligible for settlement; authorizing the Comptroller to compromise and settle claims of the State without regard to how long the claim has been in arrears.

1 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

2 Article – State Finance and Procurement

3 Section 6–219

4 Annotated Code of Maryland

5 (2021 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

6 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,

7 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

8 **Article – State Finance and Procurement**

14 6–219.

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



EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

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

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

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

5 (3) against any other person.

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

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

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

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

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

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