

lectors, sheriffs, clerks of courts and registers of wills, and other collectors or receivers of public moneys, and their securities, incorporations and individuals, who may be indebted to the state in all cases where said claims accrued prior to and including the year eighteen hundred and eighty-six, and whether said claims be now in the form of judgments or otherwise; and for the purpose of closing all such cases the comptroller is hereby fully authorized to compromise the same by abating the interest that has accrued, or any portion thereof, or any part of the principal debt, in his discretion, so as to subserve the interest of the state, and shall grant discharges to the said parties and their securities upon the payment into the treasury of the amount required by him to be paid in the settlement as aforesaid; provided, however, that the governor and treasurer for the time being shall each approve, in writing, any such abatement before the same shall be effective; and provided, further, that no discharge or acquittance under this act shall be effective unless the party or parties to be benefitted by the same shall first pay the attorney who shall have the case in hand the legal fees, and all fees of clerks or sheriffs. Proviso.

SEC. 2. *And be it enacted*, That for the purpose of bringing all unsettled balances due the state to a speedy settlement the comptroller is directed to employ such attorney or attorneys as in his judgment will best subserve the interest of the state. Employ attorneys.

SEC. 3. *And be it enacted*, That in all cases where the comptroller shall require the services of an attorney or attorneys to assist him in executing this act, he may allow such attorney or attorneys, as compensation, a commission of ten per cent. on any state claim such attorney or attorneys may collect, or assist him, the comptroller, in collecting, where the amount of such claim does not exceed the sum of five hundred dollars; and a commission of five per cent. on all sums such attorney or attorneys may collect, or assist in collecting, as aforesaid, where the claim exceeds the sum of five hundred dollars. Compensation

SEC. 4. *And be it enacted*, That whenever the claim of the state shall be compromised or set-