

Liber
W H & L

An Act relateing to the seizure of Tobacco by the Sherriffe

Forasmuch as great Complaints haue been made to the Burgeses and Delegates of the lower house of Assembly of the many and great inconveniencies that haue lately happened and doe dayly & for the future may happen and accrue to many Marchants Masters & other persons tradeing into and Resydeing & Inhabitting within this Prouince who haueing severall debts and Sumes of Tobacco due vnto them from severall persons in this Prouince who for Satisfaccōn of their said debts haue paid away and delivered to their severall Creditors severall quantityes and hoggsheads of Tobacco & such hoggsheads of Tobacco haue been Received marked and nayled by such Marchants Masters & others tradeing into & Resydeing in this Prouince as aforesaid And thereuppon the said Creditors haue delivered upp to the said Debtors their bills or other Specialltyes giuen for Security of the said debts or otherwise the said Debtors haue procured Releases & discharges for the Debts Yett Notwithstanding afterwards the severall sherriffes within this Prouince uppon pretence of Publick debts due from the said persons Debtors haue seized the said Creditors Tobacco soe Received marked and Nayled and lying in the said Debtors Tobacco houses and by that meanes the said Creditors are left without Remedy for Recovery of their said Debts againe to the great hinderance of Trade & prejudice of such Creditors. And forasmuch alsoe as the people of this Prouince are very much greived by the Severall undue practices of severall Sherriffes of this Prouince who haueing Authority to Collect his Lordshippes Rents and the Publick Levyes of this Prouince which many times amounts to a small Summe of Tobacco and Comeing to the Severall persons within this Prouince to demand & Receiue the Same & not finding Tobacco Ready packt doe Comonly marke the Inhabitants Tobacco houses wherein are farr greater quantityes of Tobacco then will pay the said Rents & Leavyes and order them not to dispose of any the said Tobacco till the same Rents & Leavyes be payd Whereby the said Inhabitants are Debarred from Laying out their said Tobaccos where they Conveniently may and when Necessity requires to their great losse & damage for prevencōn whereof for the future Bee itt Enacted by the Right Hon^{ble} the Lord Proprietary of this Prouince by & with the aduice and Consent of the upper and lower houses of this present Gen^l Assembly & the Authority of the same That any person or persons whatsoever Marchant or others within this Prouince that hath att any times within these twelue moneths last past received marked and Nayled or for the future shall Receive marke & Nayle any hoggsheads of Tobacco within this Prouince of any persons Debtors within

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