

An Acte lymiting Servants  
tymes

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Whereas certaine differences too frequently arise betweene Masters and Servants in this Province in and aboute the tyme of services and Customes often pleaded on both sides in this minority of seateing for p<sup>r</sup>vincōn of the like it is Enacted And be it Enacted by the Lord Proprietary by and w<sup>th</sup> the Consent of the upper and lower howse of this p<sup>r</sup>sent Generall Assembly that every Servant transported into this Province after the end of this Assembly being of the full age of twenty and two yeares or upwards not haueing Indenture or other sufficient Testimony for the tearme or tyme of his or her coming in such Servant shall serue him or her that transported and payd the Passage of the said Servant or their Assigns from and after their first Arrivall into this Province the full tyme of foure yeares if between the age of Eighteene and twenty two yeares such serv<sup>t</sup> shall serue fiue yeares, if betwixt the age of fifteene and Eighteene such Servant shall serue six yeares And any Servant of what age soeuer vnder fifteene yeares and Coming in as aforesaid shall serue till he or she arriue to the age of one and twenty yeares. And be it further Enacted p. 152 that every Master Mistres or Dame Assigne or Trustee of what kind soeuer owneing or keepeing any such Seru<sup>t</sup> as aforesaid whether by vertue of transportacōn Purchase or otherwise shall within six moneths next after the receiving of such Servant into their Custody within this Province except he she or they clayme but foure yeares Service of such Serv<sup>t</sup> bring the said Servant the said Servant into their respectiue County Co<sup>rt</sup> where they doe inhabit and every of the said Courts are hereby authorized to Judge of and determine the age of such Serv<sup>ts</sup> soe brought, and cause the same to be Entred vpon record And every Ownor as aforesaid neglecting or refuseing to bring such Servant or Servants before the Courts as aforesaid shall not onely stand to the determinacōn of the Court, but alsoe suffer the penalty of one thousand pounds of tobacco for depriueing the Courts of such opportunity of view of the party And if any Master or serv<sup>t</sup> aforesaid be aggreiued with the determinacōn of the Co<sup>rt</sup> he shall within the tyme determined for their Service produce an Authentick Certificatt of such Servants age and shall have Remedy according to the ages afore mencōned And be it further Enacted by the authority aforesaid that noe Indenture made by any Serv<sup>t</sup> during the tyme of service due by former Indenture or by determinacōn of the Co<sup>rt</sup> according to the tenor of this Acte shall anywise oblige any Seru<sup>t</sup> for longer tyme then by his first Indenture or determinacōn of the Co<sup>rt</sup> shall be lymited and appoynted Provided that this Acte nor any thing therein conteyned shall not give or be Construed to