

Assembly that severall Sheriffs within this Province being Inhabitant
 all of the Inhabitant thereof as well for orders drawn on them for
 Debts, as for their Private debts will not discount the same out of
 Publicke or County Levys due to such Sheriffs, but will Compell
 to take and receive for such debt or debts Indifferent to him in remote
 Inconvenient places and take the body or goods, of such Persons in
 with Intent to Extort from them their best and finest tobacco, or some
 other Illegal and Unreasonable Allowance, or Salary to the great Prejudice
 of severall of the Inhabitants of this Province for prevention whereof

Be it Enacted by the Queens most Excellent Majesty
 with the Advice and Consent of her Majesties President Council and Assembly
 Province and the Authority of the same that if any high Sheriff or high
 Sheriffs, being Indebted to any person or persons, shall refuse to discount, or
 the same, out of any publicke or County Levys due from such person or
 persons but will not withstanding the same debt being due from the
 Sheriff, take the body of such Person in Execution, he shall be Lyable to be
 prosecuted for false Imprisonment And in case such Sheriff do not take
 the body of such Person in Execution but shall take any of his goods or
 Chattels in Execution, whilst the Sheriff remains in such Person, he shall be deemed
 and taken as a Trespasser And Lyable to the same prosecution paynes penes
 and forfeitures as if any private person had taken such goods

And be it further enacted by the authority
 that the high Sheriff of every respective County, shall be Lyable to
 sued as aforesaid for his own or any of his Deputy or Deputies Offence or
 excess against this act, and the debts mentioned which the Sheriff may owe
 any Inhabitants are to be understood of such debts as are assigned the
 Inhabitants in the publicke or County Levys due from the high Sheriff or
 bill, bond, Note or account proved any Law Usage or Custom to the contrary
 notwithstanding - This act to endure three years, and to the end of the
 session of Assembly which shall happen next after the end of the said three
 years And no longer

10 Nov. 1711: Read & assented to by the House of Delegates & signed
 Rich. Dalton & Co. Secy
 Read & assented to by her Majesty's Council & signed
 W. Bladen Secy

November 3 1711

On the behalf of the said Province
 W. Bladen Secy